# THE INDEPENDENT

Friday 21 November 1997

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# New Labour sells a New Monarchy



ning glory: Tony Blair with the Queen after yesterday's service at Westminster Abbey

### BLAIR ON ELIZABETH

"She is an extraordinarily shrewd and perceptive observer of the world. Hers is advice worth having... There are only two people in the world to whom a prime minister can say what he likes about his Cabinet colleagues. One's the wife, the other's the Queen.

"As a young boy in short trousers, I stood and waved my flag as I saw you first in Durham city back in the early 60s. I am as proud as proud can be to be your prime minister today offering this tribute on behalf of the country. You are our Queen. We respect and cherish you. You are, simply, the best of British.

"This year, the tragedy of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, has put you and those closest to you through a terrible test. I know from the conversations we had during those days, how deeply you felt those events for yourself, Princes Charles and the boys. I know too, contrary to some of the hurtful things that were said at the time, how moved you were by the outpouring of

### ELIZABETH ON BLAIR

"Today, Prime Minister, we accept your generous hospitality in very different Britain... The economy in your charge, and which you inherited, is soundly based and growing.

Despite the huge constitutional difference between a hereditary monarchy and an elected government, "they are complementary institutions, each with its own role to play, and each in its different way exists only with the support and consent of the people. That consent, or the lack of it, is expressed for you, Prime Minister, through the ballot box. It is a tough, even brutal, system but at least the message is a clear one for all to read." It often fell to the prime minister to be the bearer of "the messages sent from people to Sovereign".

She added: "Prime Minister, I know you, like your predecessors, will always pass such messages, as you read them, without fear or favour, I shall value that, and am grateful for your assurances of the loyalty and support of your Government in years to come."

### Tony's still waving his flag. Are we?

Dianafication of the monarchy takes place before our eyes. to us rather than down to us. The speech made by the Queen at the banquet hosted yesterday by Tony Blair to celebrate ber Golden Wedding had a strikingly different tone - confident. warm and informal.

She promised to listen to the people and admitted the royals often found public opinion and help, though one can't hard to read, "obscured as it can be by deference". If this was New Labourish, Tony Blair returned the favour at a "people's hanquet" in Whitehall, calling her "unstuffy, unfussy and unfazed by anything, with a keen sense of humour and a mean ability for mimicry." He was placing the mantle of New Labour popularity around her. waved flags for her and who in greater access to public opinion,

speech which was most striking. much the same thing. While we saw her edging towards the mores of the 20th century after Diana's death the hand of the image managers when forced to grieve in pub- - the spin doctors - in everylic by popular demand, her thing the royals do at the mospeech at that time revealed her ment, whether it is cavorting bewilderment, uncertainty and with the Spice girls or lunching inability to connect sufficiently with the emotions of the day. Yesterday's speech by Prince

Philip demonstrated the same strained formality. The most he could say about his wife of 50 years was that she had been tolerant. Yet Philip always did seem the unlikeliest candidate for the great royal make-over. Trying to get him to emote in public is as Indicrous as making Victor Meldrew swim with dolphins or sending Basil Fawlty on an aromatherapy course.

The Queen, on the other hand, displays flashes of wit and humanity - the line about not actually surfing the net but listening to other people talk about it - as well as a genuine awareness of how much the world has changed. The voice is less shrill and more chatty, power is interchangeable with

New Labour, New Queen? It demonstrating a self-aware- another. For while she em- amounts to a mutually benefilooks very much like it as the ness that we have not seen much of before. She is talking

> rather than generalise which is privileges that sustain the the secret of the new intimacy monarchy. that reigns supreme. Thus she talks of the Beatles and Margot Fonteyn rather than the sixties or the ballet. She talks directly of her busband's love help feeling that the man she reserves most affection for is in fact Tony Blair, the boy who in his short trousers excitedly she suggests, is that one has

hraces the spirit of informality, meritocracy even, we should not forget that these principles are She has learnt to personalise the opposite of the rituals and

> Indeed, the Queen suggests that the gulf between hereditary monarchy and elected government is really not so wide. "They are complementary institutions. And each, in its different way, exists only with the support and consent of the people". The real difference,

cial love-in. Despite the Queen's efforts

to humanise berself and the brutal system (as she called the electoral system) which she heads up, we should not be blinded to the fact that a radical government would be doing something about hereditary privilege - especially a government that prides itself on its modernity.

Where is Britain's motor of change to come from while Labour laps up the trappings of old establishment power and the monarchy craves the populism of the new touchy-feely government as well as the common touch of its dead daughter-in-law? The one ray of hope comes for the fact that this bizarre affair is being conducted in public.

This is a first. Although the manufacture of consent is the business of government, it is now also being actively sought rather than simply assumed by the monarchy. Some may suggest that the government is beloing her understand the merely beloing the monarchy modernise itself hut at the moment it looks more like a merger than anything else and who, I wonder, ever gave their consent for this further monopoli-

### BY SUZANNE MOORE

But it was the Queen's his long trousers is still doing

Whatever the extent of Blair's influence, one can feel ing to "read" what the people with "commoners".

Astonishingly, the Queen anoints Tony and Cherie as the new in-laws when she talks of them celebrating their own golden wedding anniversary in the year 2030; and this she does in the fashionable language of inclusion - "as one working couple to another". She is just like us though she is not one of

This is a remarkable trick for a monarch to pull off and one that shows how much life there is in the old girl yet. With a breathtaking lightness of touch that hides its sheer audacity she pulls together the monarchy and the top representatives of elected government as though they were all part of the same family, as though one kind of politicians through the ballot box, whereas the poor old Royals have to flounder around trywant. Assuming absolutely that they do want a monarchy, she indicates the part that the Prime Minister has played in messages sent "from people to sovereign".

The cosiness of the relationship between the Prime Minister and the Queen, revealed in both their speeches,

SK, OFFICIAL SELECTION IN COMPETITION - CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 1997 🔀 BRILLIANTLY

AND AT CINEMAS EVERYWHERE

### TODAY'S NEWS

### Tagging preferred to jail

Up to 30,000 offenders – some as young as 10 – will be tagged and placed under a stay at home curfew, rather than be locked up, under proposals announced yesterday by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary. Page 3

### Breast implants unsafe

Research published in The Lancet, the medical journal, suggests that most silicone breast implants will rupture within 20 years. In a study, half had ruptured after 12 years, 95 per cent after 20 years. Page 6

### It's hard to sack teachers

Research undertaken for the Government by Exeter University shows that head teachers are spending up to 12 years negotiating the removal of teachers alleged to be incompetent. In most cases it took about two years to sack a poor member of staff. Page 7



TELEVISION The Eye, page 32 CROSSWORDS Page 32 and WEATHER The Eye, page 30

### IRA convict may help clear man jailed for bomb attack

John Kinselia was sentenced to 20 years for hiding a bag of explosives and weapons for an IRA gang. He has always insisted that he did not know what was inside the bag - and now one of the real bombers may help prove he was telling the truth. Steve Boggan examines the evidence.

A convicted bomber is set to become the first IRA prisoner to give evidence in court in a fresh attempt to free a potentially innocent man. Pairic MacFhloinn, who is serving 35 years for blowing up Warrington gas works, has told lawyers for John Kinsella he is prepared to confirm at the Court of Appeal that he tricked Kinsella into playing a minor role in the 1993 bombing.

the IRA to clear the names of wrongfully convicted prisoners nephew, Dennis Kinsella, and came in 1976 when Joe O'Connell, the leader of the IRA gang caught after a siege in Balcombe Street, west London, said on sentencing that his gang had been responsible for the hombing of pubs in Guildford and Woolwich - and those jailed. The Guildford Four were eventually freed after 15 years.

Independent show that the defence team, which is led by Anthony Scrivener QC, a former chairman of the Bar Council, has interviewed MacFhloinn in prison three times.

One of the grounds of appeal states: "... MacFhloinn corroborates the Appellant's the explosions".

cape. The officer survived. Appeal papers seen by The

account that he was not in any way involved in the planning of

Nottingham, was accused at his prints were on none of them.

The only similar attempt by trial of being the quartermaster for a gang that included his two other IRA terrorists, MacFhloinn and "Timmings" who was never captured. The gang caused a huge explosion at the gasworks in February 1993. No one was injured in the blast, but a policeman was shot five times by MacFhloinn in the es-

> On the morning of the bombing, Kinsella, who was sentenced to 20 years, later reduced to 16, had agreed to hide a holdall for the gang. He has always insisted he was told the hag contained stolen goods. He was paid £200. In fact, the holdall con-

tained explosives and weapons. but the items were wrapped and be could not identify the items. Kinsella, 52, a petty crook of Defence papers say his finger. He never suspected that we

According to Kinsella, once police revealed details of the crime, he led them to the bag because he had buried it undemeath a spot where small bonfires were regularly lit. He was concerned that a children's playground was nearby. Details of the bonfires did

not come out at the first trial. They form one of four grounds of appeal. The others relate to arguments over evidence and witness statements relating to Kinsella's reasons for visiting his nephew - and meeting the real bombers - on the day.

In March 1995, with the permission of the IRA Army Council, MacFhloinn sent a letter to Kinsella's supporters which read: "John is not a member of the IRA and has taped in black plastic. Kinsella never been. He had absolutely says he looked in the bag, but no idea what myself and my comrade ... were involved in.

### **X** COLUMN ONE

### Shoppers trapped in Laa-Laa-land

Hamleys has been doing it for weeks. Now Mothercare has started doing it too. The childrenswear and toy retailer said yesterday that it is having to ration Teletubbies, this year's hottest toy item, in order to prevent irate parents from handbagging each other in Christmas queues up and

Mothercare said it is has imposed a limit of one Teletubby doll per person, as demand is so great. Storehouse, the retail group which owns Mothercare and BhS, said that desperate parents had begun quening outside its stores from 2am in order to ensure they got their hands on Tinky Winky, Dipsy, Laa-Laa and Po, the cuddly, roly-poly dolls based on the characters from the hit BBC children's television programme.

With demand for Teletubbics far outstripping demand, and Spice Girl dolls not expected in the shops until next month, Storehouse is hoping



to achieve Christmas success with some of its home-grown novelties. This year BhS has shipped in large quantities of electronic T-shirts which cost £18 for adults and £14 for children.

So far there are three kinds, based on football, motor racing and aliens. They feature fabric-covered patches which, when pressed, make sounds such as a crowd roaring when a goal is scored or of Formula One cars revving on the starting grid. The alien version utters the message "We come in peace" when certain parts of the garment are pressed. Others yet to hit the shelves include a guitar version which releases a Jimi Hendrix-style guitar solo, a "999" emergency services model and a "Hand of Passion" version which gives palm readings. BhS says they expect the Tshirts to sell like hot cakes.

BhS has already achieved notable successes with novel Christmas gifts in the past few years, witness its huge sales in 1995 of chocolate body paint. Sold in little pots, the edible paint became known as a popular source of adult entertainment on cold winter evenings. The paint has even been credited with saving marriages, selling a staggering 400,000 pots last Christmas. So popular has it become that it is now being sold in larger "Dulux" sized pots, as well as the more modest sizes first introduced.

"There are no instructions on the pots, " a BhS spokesman said. "It is just up to people's imagination."

But for parents who do not manage to secure a Teletubby doll for their beloved todalcr this Christmas there is a salutary tale from Kent. Sue Burt managed to get her hands on all four Teletuhby dolls as well as a Teletubby TV for ber son after ordering them back in July. But with Christmas now just weeks away, he has decided Teletubhies are not his thing and switched his affections to Thomas the Tank engine. Ms Burt is now trying to sell the toys or swap them for something else.

- Nigel Cope

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### **PEOPLE**



#### Robbie Williams told to pay £90,000 to manager

Robbie Williams, the former Take That star, was yesterday ordered by a High Court judge to pay £90,000 in commission to the man who founded the band

which launched him to fame. Mr Justice Ferris, sitting in London, said Williams tin-Smith, his one-time manager, immediately. The sum is likely to increase significantly when other figures for VAT, costs, interest and further on-going commission are assessed at a later date.

The judge delivered his ruling following a hearing in July during which Williams contested the claim hy Mr Martin-Smith, who founded the phenomenally successful boys' band in 1990.

Williams, 23, of Greenbank Road, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent, who left Take That in 1995, was not the teenage fans who attended every day of the July

Since he left the band he has recreated himself with a clean and sober image, reflected in his recently released first solo album, Life Through a Lens. Mr Justice Ferris said that, until 13 July 1995,

Williams was a "member of an extremely successful group of performers of popular music under the name Take That". In October 1990 he and the other members of the group - Mark Owen, Howard Donald, Jason Orange and Gary Barlow - entered was "ohliged" to pay the money to Mr Nigel Mar- into an agreement with Mr Martin-Smith under which he agreed to act as manager in return for "remuneration calculated by reference to a percentage share of the earnings or receipts of the group or its individual members".

The judge yesterday rejected Williams' assertion that his obligations under the management agreement were terminated shortly after he left the group. He added: "Since the time when Mr Williams left the group he has refused or failed to pay to Mr Martin-Smith some of the remuneration which he present in court yesterday and neither were any of ... claims to be payable to him under the management

Williams, who is abroad on business until the end of the year, has until 9 January to swear a legal statement relating to matters raised in the inquiry as to further commission.

— Clare Garner

### Woman who spoke up loses tobacco cash appeal

sponsorship by her employers, in days she was sacked. the Medical Research Council (MRC), has lost her appeal al tribunal upheld the dismissal, against dismissal.

then head of public communica- role as set out in her job descriptions for the MRC, spoke out in tion and as followed by her hithf147.000 from British American Tobacco (BAT), to fund research on whether nicotine can help older people at risk of Alzheimer's disease.

She said it "would be seriously damaging to the MRC's reputation as an impartial source of

A woman who was fired for critscientific knowledge. I put this in for tobacco money, is unedifying, icising the acceptance of tobacco writing but was overruled. With

This week a London industriruling that Mrs Rice "had so far Last November Mary Rice, stepped outside her prescribed

by scientists, including some fund-ed by the council. Mrs Rice said: of the MRC for a mere £147,000?" Studies in Holland have sug-"The sight of the first organisation in the world to warn of the link be-

Yesterday, the MRC said it welcomed the decision by the tribunal bnt insisted that the case "had no bearing on her right, or that of any employee, to express opinions or

offer advice internally on corpo-

rate policy or decisions". Mrs Rice is unimpressed. "Why a newspaper about the council's erto, as to call into doubt her should [the tobacco industry] The MRC's decision to seek mula One team when they have funding from BAT was criticised been able to buy the good name

> Studies in Holland have suggested that smokers are more liable than non-smokers to develop tween smoking and cancer, touting Alzheimer's disease.

### Truant schoolboy to fly home

A 16-year-old public schoolboy to have been suffering from exwho skipped lessons and secretly amination stress, had not been flew to the Caribbean has telephoned home to tell his parents he is safe and well.

Interpol had been alerted over GCSE student Fenn Chapman, who disappeared from Rugby School in Warwickshire on Tuesday and set off for Barbados. The likley, North Yorkshire, refused teenager, who was at first thought

seen since arriving on the island. Police say the boy, who had visited Barbados on a recent family holiday, had contacted his parents

and was planning to return home. His parents, Christine and Ernest Chapman, who live near to comment.

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

#### Build urban homes, says survey

Most people believe that new homes should be built in urban areas and not on "greenfield" countryside sites, a report said today.

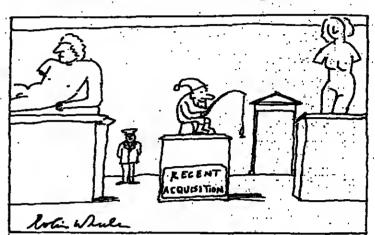
Almost two in three of the people questioned in a survey said new houses should be created by redeveloping urban land, while just 9 per cent favoured development on green field sites, said Barclays Mortgages. The majority, 59 per cent, said their favourite place to live would be a quiet suburb, while 21 per cent favoured an older property with land. Town-centre living was chosen by just 11 per cent.

Price was the key consideration for the majority of people in choosing a new home. But the report emphasised that location still mattered, with 69 per cent of people saying they would choose a smaller, cheaper house in a better area rather than a bigger house in a less attractive place.

Jim Chadwick, managing director of Barclays Mortgages, said: "If Britain is to have the 4.4 million extra homes it needs by 2018, housebuilders will need to cater for a variety of tastes and look for innovative ways to maintain their market share."

#### LIFESTYLE

#### Gnomes have the last laugh



case RA

Arbiters of good taste be warned - garden gnomes could be making a comeback. The plastic variety is still taboo, but interest in antique German terracotta little men is surging, according to Gardening Which? magazine.

Collectors are paying up to £2,000 for the oldest figurines, and there are plenty of gnomes going for upwards of £100. The first garden gnome to be introduced to Britain, a 6-inch porcelain figure imported in the late-1860s, is now deemed "priceless". Germany is the still the higgest producer of gnomes, and they are considerably more popular on the Continent than in Britain. A recent Consumers' Association poll put gnomes bottom of a list of desirable garden ornaments. Alistair Ayres, editor of the magazine, said: "We may love to hate them, but ... the market for collecting old and rare gnomes shows no sign of collapsing."

#### MEDIA

#### Evans loses to Ball in radio battle

Despite the non-stop hype machine that is Chris Evans, Radio 1 new breakfast duo Zoe Ball and Kevin Greening are attracting more new listeners than Virgin Radio's ginger-headed millionaire.

Radio 1's new breakfast line up, which started in Evans' old job on the same day as Evans started at Virgin, has attracted 750,000 new listeners, according to leaked monthly audience figures. By comparison Chris Evans' audience has increased by 470,000. But the October figures show that Evan's has a bigger percentage increase because of Virgin's low base and poor reception outside London. Virgin's breakfast show has increased by 26 per and Radio 1 14 per cent. If Virgin can charge advertisers more in Evans' slot be will have more than covered his 10-week fee. Ball gets 5.76 million listeners in a week compared with Evans' 2.31 million. - Paul McCann, Media Correspondent

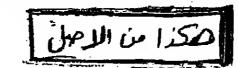
#### **TOURIST RATES** Australia (dollars) Italy (lira) 2,797 19.98 Austria (schillings) 211.73 Japan (yen) Belgium (francs) Malta (lira) 58.66 0.63 Canada (\$) 3.20 Netherlands (guilders) Cyprus (pounds) 0.83Norway (kroner) 11.63 Denmark (kroner) Portugal (escudos) 288.44 France (francs) 9.51 Spain (pesetas) 239.19 Greece (drachmei) 2.85 Sweden (kroner) 12.48 454.11 Switzerland (francs) 2.32 Hong Kong (\$) 12.66 Turkey (lira) 310,656 Ireland (punts) 1.10 United States (\$) 1.65 Section 5



7.30 FOR 8







# Ten-year-olds set for electronic ball and chain

Up to 7,500 criminals, including children, will be fitted with electronic tags undér plans announced yesterday. Jason Bennetto, Crime Correspondent: examines a dramatic move to curb lawlessness

and force down the jail

population.

Child offenders as young as 10 the Tories as the Government will be fitted with tags and placed under house arrest as part of an expansion of electronic monitoring announced by the Government vesterday.

In addition, up to 7,500 criminals will be tagged and released as much as two mouths before their sentence is completed. All offenders jailed from three months to four years will eligible for early release providing they do not pose

a threat to the community. The move, condemned by

going soft on crime, is aimed at reducing the jail population, which has reached a record 63,500, and helping offenders

acclimatise to life outside jail. Jack Straw, Home Secretary, said that as part of the expansion of tagging, children aged 10 to 15 will be tagged in two trial areas of Grenter Manchester and Norfolk, Labour opposed tagging while in opposition, but now believes it is a useful alternative to prison.

From January, courts will be

able to impose a curfew orderon young offenders, who will have to wear a tag on the wrist or arm, which will be monitored by a private security firm to ensure the child does not leave home during a specified period. The punishment will be part of a community penalty for offences such as vandalism. Although Mr Straw had said he intended tagging younger of-

fenders, it was not expected

they would be as young as 10.

At present the youngest crim-

inals tagged are 16.

thousands of prisoners on tags will have the higgest impact on the criminal justice system. Criminals convicted of all offences, including burglary and assault, could be placed under house arrest and released from jail up to two months early if they are no longer considered a danger by the prison governor and other agencies.

Most offenders convicted of sexual and violent crimes would not be considered for tagging. Of the 7,500 criminals

The mass early release of cligible at least half are expected to be tagged. Spread throughout the year, that would mean about 30,000 immates would be under a curfew.

Offenders placed under the Home Detention Carfew. which will be included in the Crime and Disorder Bill and which is expected to become law in 1999, will have to spend a minimum of nine hours a day at home. They would start the curfew from two weeks to two months before they were released, which is usually after

been served. A breach of curfew could result in the offender being returned to jail. Mr Straw said: "Home Detention Curfew will ... deprive them of their liberty for a major part of the day, but will also allow them to inject some sense of structure

and order into their lives." In the Commons yesterday Sir Brian Mawhinney, the Tory home-affairs spokesman, accused Labour of betraying its election pledge to be tough on

#### IN TOMORROW'S FIVE-SECTION INDEPENDENT



Travels in South America, skiing in the Arctic TIME OFF

**Beware of** the home sale cheats YOUR MONEY



John Walsh meets Nick Park **PLUS** A brave face for winter SATURDAY MAGAZINE

Elaine Strich: the lady who lunches **FEATURES** 

### Daughter testifies against murder case RAF officer

The wife of a senior RAF officer suspected her husband was having an affair just weeks before he allegedly murdered her, their daughter told a jury yesterday. Kim Sengupta describes the dramatic scene at Norwich Crown Court as she gave evidence for the

prosecution.

Vanessa Vujcich did not look once at her father. Sqn Ldr Nicholas Tucker, sitting 10 feet away in the dock as she gave evidence against him for 45 minutes. He stared at her intently as she spoke about how her mother was upset after fearing he was having an affair while serving as a UN observerin Bosnia. At the end of his daughter's testimony he took off

A few weeks after expressing her suspicion of infidelity, Carol Tucker, 52, was found dead after a cor she was travelling in with her husband plunged into a river. Ms Vuicich told the court that the squadron leader had later confessed to her of his liaison with a 21-year-old Serbiaa interpreter.

The prosecution claims that it was this infatuation for Dijana Dudukovic, which drove the RAF officer to stage an accident at the River Lark, in Suffolk, and murder her.

Ms Vujcich, 22, an air hostess with Britannia Airways now living in New Zealand, told the jury at Norwich Crown Court that her father returned home twice while serving in former Yugoslavia. She said: "My mother spoke to me about how she suspected that he was having an affair. She was thoroughly upset and obviously she was looking for answers".

Ms Vujcich said that following the fatal accident on 21 July 1995 there was a series of telephone calls to the Tucker home in Honington, Suffolk. hour from a woman whose voice she did not recognise. Later she heard him mention Zurich in another call.

claimed it was to do with a family he was helping in Bosnia. But after being interviewed by the the police he told her about a "fling in Bosnia".

Ms Vujcich said: "I remember that he wanted to tell me about somebody that he met in Father's Day card.



jury was told by a Royal because she had seen pho-Marines officer, Lt Timothy At first Sqn Ldr Tucker name. He said he had a fling Stear, who served as a UN peace-keeper in former Yugoslavia that Ms Dudukovic at the RAF base at Honington, "used sex to manipulate people"

She had stayed in contact with neglected military duties to her father and sent him a take her shopping in Zagreb. Ms Vujcich told the court Earlier in the hearing the that her mother was "annoyed"

and Sqn Ldr Tucker became her

tographs of Sqn Ldr Tucker with two interpreters in Bosnia which was being passed around

The jury was read a letter lapdog". It was alleged he from Mrs Tucker to her husband: "I was very upset by the photos of the smoothy parties and the girls. I was hurting so much. Any wife would be.

"I try not to worry and cope lowing the crash. He cried as he with everything, and then I just said her mother had been killed. snap - when I saw all the parties going on and the booze. It Tucker took his daughter to the probably means nothing to you crash site. She thought the but it means a lot to me. I worry in case you don't come through it all and step on a mine

or get a sniper's bullet." Ms Vujcich told the court how she was woken by her father at 2am the morning fol- der. The case continues.

water was not as deep as she had expected. She added that her mother had a phohia about water, but could swim.

Two days later Sqn Ldr

Sqn Ldr Tucker, 46, of Honington, Suffolk, denies mur-



Sqn Ldr Tucker yesterday Photograph: Alban Donohoe Bosnia before I found out in an-

25% off

other way. It was Dijana, hut I

cannot remember if he used that

with an interpreter in Bosnia.

He had also taken her some-

where in England. I remember

heing quite understanding about it and listening to him."

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### Armed burglars in £1 m gem raid at Cartier

Up to £1 m worth of jewellery and cuffed to a table before the raiders, weargems has been stolen from the workshops of the Cartier company. The raid was carefully planned and swiftly executed, says Jason Bennetto, Crime Correspondent.

Detectives are investigating a robbery in a central Londoo jewellery workshop in which two armed meo stole hundreds of thousands of pounds' worth of gems in

Two masked robbers, with sawn-off shop and jumped into it after smashing through through the glass roof, surprising two workers. The manager and another staff member were threateoed and hand-

that were being made and repaired. They then climbed out of the building back onto the roof and escaped near New Bond Street, central London.

The whole operation, which happened on Wednesday evening, took about 20 minutes, the robbers spent only 10 minutes inside the workshop.

The raiders appeared to know precisely when to strike - just before the workshop, called English Art Works, was due to close. The workshop, where new jewellery is made and old pieces repaired, is supposed to be a secret and is hid discretely on the fifth believed to have belonged to clients. shotguns, climbed onto the roof of a build- floor of on an office building in New Bond ing next to Cartier's secret fifth-floor work- Street, close to Cartier's London headquarters. Yet the robbers were able to get into the building at great speed - entering via a yard behind the office - and leave at about 7.20pm without being spotted.

Detectives from Scotland Yard's Flying balaclavas, removed gems and jewellery ing Squad are examining closed-circuit television footage, although there had been reports that the CCTV was switched off shortly before the raid. They have also recovered an aluminium ladder on the roof of the workshop, which was used to get into the building.

Arnaud Bamberger, the managing director of Cartier said yesterday: "Two members of staff were on the premises and although they were handcuffed and threatened, I am relieved to say that neither of them was injured. Items were stolen ... but we believe it be less than £1 m."None are

Former Flying Squad commander John O'Connor said yesterday the "audacious" robbery was slick and well organised. But he said the raiders would be very vulnerable as they attempted to sell



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#### Dangers mount for the mobile-phone motorist

Motorists using mobile phones - including hands-free devices - can be sufficiently distracted to be regarded as unsafe, according to Government research. Baroness Hayman, the road safety minister, told peers that "there is an associatioo between telephone use and increased accident risk".

The report, by the Transport Research Laboratory, points out that there was a quadrupling of the risk of collision during a phone-call in a car - and that hands-free devices offered "no advantage in that context". Drivers were also 30 per cent less likely to respond to a hazard than "phonefree" motorists when having an "intense conversatioo" oo a "hands-free" telephone. Police can charge motorists whose driving is affected by using a telephone, under existing offences such as careless or dangerous driving.

Many experts agree mobile-phone conversations while driving should be avoided. A much-publicised piece of work in the New England Journal of Medicine said the risk of talking on a mobile phone while driving is equivalent having consumed the legal limit in alcohol.

The problem for ministers is how to proceed. Lady Hayman is working on a code of practice with mobile-phone companies and motoring interests.

- Randeep Ramesh, Transport Correspondent

### Doctor accused of fraud

A doctor pleaded poverty to swindle the taxpayer out of £26,000 in income support, a court heard. But Edward Young, 53, was treating hundreds of patients for up to £4,000 a month,

Inner London Crown Court heard that during the two years he was going to his Department of Social Security office he earned £39,000 and £10,000 in reot on a house he owned in Glasgow, said the prosecutor, Edward Brown.

Dr Young, of Valleyfield Road, Streatham, south-west London, denies four counts of deception. Mr Brown said that in 1993 Dr Young stopped working and applied for income support which rose to £250 a week. "He was legitimately entitled to that ... but 10 mooths later he began practising as a doctor again, earning what you may think were significant sums as a locum," the barrister told the jury. "However, he also continued to claim income support dishooestly for two or more years." The hearing was adjourned to today.

### THE INDEPENDENT

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### Caring, sharing generation spurns two-party system

### BY NICOLE VEASH AND JACK O'SULLIVAN

The Liberal Democrats are poised to claim the lion's share of young Britons' votes. The next generation - socially liberal, backing higher taxes for the rich and more state spending - is instinctively closer to Paddy Ashdown than Tony Blair, suggests 2020 Vision, a survey of 10,000 young people exclusively previewed in The Independent.

The votes of this generation could swing a generation broadly in sympathy with centhe next general election. Their beliefs suggest that Labour has a problem - it may need to shift left and towards a more liberal agenda to capture new voters.

torist

Nearly two-thirds want to tax high earners more, an option previously rejected by Gordon Brown. In keeping with Paddy Ashdown's manifesto, four out of five want the extra money for education. Second on their spending wish list comes the National Health Service, which two-thirds feel deserves higher funding. Way down the order of priorities are the police and the armed forces. Roads come bottom.

Young Britons are, however, self-reliant, in keeping with the Thatcherite strictures ture as important. in which they were raised - a small minority back higher henefits. Their social liberalism contrasts with authoritarian tendencies er to home, which have direct relevance to within Thatcherism and, to some extent, Blairism. The majority want cannabis legalised, a move supported in the past on the floor of the Liberal Democrats' party The two-party system doesn't allow us to conference, but which Labour recently ruled out. Young people are also strongly antiracist. They reject the vilification of single parents, with the majority saying lone parents can raise children just as well as cou- that goes unchallenged," she said.

ples. On crime, they are more interested in preventive than punitive measures - most say that the police would be more effective if there was more respect between police and public. They blame family background and boredom for youth crime and think family values have the best chance of stopping young people breaking the law.

Klaire Lane. 19, a student at the University of Edinburgh, voted for the Lib-Dems in May. "They seem to make practical sense, hey don't make promises about not raising taxes and that makes them more realistic than the uther parties," she said.

A picture emerges from the research nf trist policies and an emphasis on reducing social deprivation. More than half say unemployment is the most urgent problem which oeeds to be tackled, while two in five identify homelessness as the most pressing issue and nearly half say the drugs problem should be at the top of the Government's agenda. Pollution is way down the list of priorities.

Nearly nine out of ten of this generation, are however, politically inactive, regarding Westminster's present two-party system as a turn off. Many of the issues, which preoccupied earlier generations, such as nuclear disarmament, no longer fea-

Tracey Cook, 24, from Bradford, believes her generation are interested in issues closyoung people's lives. "There are lots of issues which Westminster is not addressing because they are speaking with one voice. do anything for ourselves. Both parties lay the hlame of society's ills at our door. They say young people are part of the moral decay and because we don't generally vote

TOMORROW: young readers give their views



Flat feeling: Dancer Claire Livingstone says Labour have nnt moved fast enough

### 'I'm really interested in issues close to home'

Claire Livingstone, 25, is a first artist in the Royal Ballet.

"I was nearly going to vote Liberal Democrat at the election, but I didn't think

they could really make a difference. vice. But at the end of the day they just

"The whole election with the Labour landslide was very exciting, but after that they are on our internet site at I just switched off from the daily grind of http://www.independent.co.uk

don't have any real power.

"What I'm really interested in is issues 2020 Vision is co-ordinated by the Industrial close to home.

problems: Things like homelessness and able on Wednesday (phone 0121 460 3456).

I don't think the Government is moving fast enough. I would be more than happy to pay more taxes if I could guaran-

#### **TELL US YOUR VIEW**

"If they were io a position to form a government I would definitely have voted for them, because I agree with their plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the health service. But at the end of the day they just the local plans for education and the local pl a selection of views later in the week. If you have missed any of our survey details,

Society with additional research by MORI. "Foreign policy and things like Europe The Action Agenda will be launched on should not take over from domestic Monday. Copies of the report will be avail-

drugs need to be dealt with urgently and tee my money was going to sort out these problems. In some ways we ignore certain social problems in this country.

"Take racism, Most people just don't see it as an issue, but when the first black dancer joined the Royal Ballet recently there was such a lot of fuss.

"I don't think they were going to take him on because of this ridiculous old-fashioned thing about all dancers looking the same and a black face standing out.

On racism and other issues we are certainly way behind a lot of other countries around the world. "The legalisation of cannabis, for ex-

ample, is also a really important issue to tackle, but the Liberal Democrats are the only party to say they want to legalise it. I wouldn't describe myself as a political person. I don't go round waving a banner, but I know what I want for the country."

### **Youngsters** who want to belong

Young Britons don't have much leisure time and, when they play, it isn't just for fun. It is to be with friends and gain a sense of belonging.

Laura Holmes's leisure pursuits sound like the age-old story of a misspent youth pubbing and clubbing. Laura, 21, a 3rdyear student reading English at Exeter University, accepts that her lifestyle "doesn't sound very imaginative". But underlying her choices is the Nineties concern to find and stick with your own group.

"I don't necessarily go to the puh intending to get drunk," she says. "It's not like that. I go to be sociable. It is practically the only place where you can see all of your friends in one place and chat. I enjoy going to clubs Inn because I enjoy the congregational aspect of it. Also I love dancing. It makes me forget work worries and is the best way of letting my hair down."

The 2020 Vising survey found that young people have little sense of community -- only a fifth feel part of their locality. But nearly nine out of 10 feel they belong to their group of friends. "So they go to places where they can meet other young people." says Jo Gardiner, co-odinator of the survey for the Industrial Society.

It could be slobbing in front of television – anything, as long as it is not a solitary activity.

"At university it becomes incredibly easy to vegetate in front of the television," says Laura. "You wouldn't helieve the ruhhish some studeots watch. Friday nights in with everyone watching Shooting Stars has become something of an institution, though ... we're all together and there is a very good communal atmosphere."

A desire for togetherness explains the most unusual activities. "We were fascinated by how many young people are into working for St John Ambulance," says Ms Gardiner. "We asked why they wanted to do all that training and sit around at events for hours waiting for someone to faint. They said il was a great way to meet other young people and they felt they belonged."

Many girls, however, feel that school leisure activities are often really about boys getting together. "Their views raise the question of whether young men and women want to belong in the same way," says Ms Gar-

Additional reporting by Taby Wiseman



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### Fresh worry over breast implants

Fears about the risks of silicone breast implants will be re-ignited by a review which suggests almost all will rupture within 20 years. Jeremy Laurance, Health Editor, says there are unanswered questions about the safety of the implants used by thousands of women.

Silicone breast implants, once described as a "timebomb ticking in womeo's chests", may turn out to be just that, a review of research, published in The Lancet, has concluded. There is evidence that the implants, used to boost the natural assets of American film stars Demi Moore and Melanie Griffiths and the British Page Three model Melinda Messenger, become weaker with age and more prone to leak

One study found 11 per cent of women had a ruptured implant after eight years. half after 12 years and 95 per cent after 20 years. British experts said the findings were alarmist and took no account of improvements in the manufacture of implants over the past two decades.

David Sharpe, consultant plastic surgeon and chairman of the Breast Special Interest Group of the British Association of Plastic Surgeons, said those made since 1989 had thicker walls, with a different construction. "It is complete nonsense to suggest almost all implants will rupture in 20

cent of implants rupture but estimates reported to the US Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) have been higher. The authors of the review, Lori Brown and colleagues from the Centre for Devices and Radiological Health at the FDA, say: "There is an emerging consensus that [the rate] is much higher than previously suspected." In Britain about 5,000 women a year have the implants, 60 per cent for cosmetic reasons and the remainder following surgery for breast cancer. In the US an estimated one to two million women have had them. The FDA banned silicone breast implants for cosmetic reasons in 1992, atthough they are still permitted for reconstructive purposes.

That ban was imposed not because the implants were known to pose a risk but be-cause manufacturers failed to collect information on the issue, as they were legally required to do. A decision by the main manufacturers to set up compensation funds worth more than \$6bn for affected women was taken because they calculated it would save them tens of billions of dollars in legal costs, even if they were to win and not because they admitted liability.

UK government reviews in 1992 and

1994 declared the implants safe but a third review ordered by health minister Baroness Jay last summer and chaired by Sir Kenneth Calman, the Chief Medical Officer, is due to report in the New Year. The third review was prompted by renewed concerns over safety and over the advice given to womeo prior to receiving implants, a



Divine intervention: Building worker JS Hunda Singh praying at yesterday's topping out ceremony at the new Sadler's Wells theatre in London yesterday. With him is Fr Victor Stock, rector of St Mary-le-Bow, who is holding a piece of yew to be mixed with concrete to ward off evil spirits Photograph: Kalpesh Lathigra



#### Coastguards aid crew of second stricken ship

Coastguard rescuers were standing by to airlift the crew of a 1000-tonne bulk carrier last night - only 24 hours after a helicopter winchman was lost at sea. The Minoan Bay was in difficulties in the storm-lashed waters off Scotland's northern coast. A tug was trying to fix a line to the Maltese-registered vessel in the

Pentland Firth, off Orkney.

Meanwhile, coastguards were waiting for oews that a body discovered in the sea off Shetland - less than 100 miles away - was that of Bill Deacon, a father-of-two from Ellon, Aberdeenshire. He was swept away after helping to safety 10 of the 15 crew from the freighter Green Lily, which ran aground on the Shetland island of Bressay, on Wednesday.

Mr Deacon, 50, was a relief winchman on the four-man coastguard helicopter operating out of Sumburgh Airport, Shetland, under contract to the helicopter company Bristow. He had just helped the last crew member off the vessel when massive wave washed him overboard.

The second sea drama in the Northern Isles came only hours after the body, clad in winchman's gear, was recovered from the water. Coastguards said that, if the tug was unable to assist the Minoan Bay, the same helicopter at the ccotre of Wednesday's tragedy would be sent to help rescue the 24 crew.

#### Woman fights for her life after firebomb attack

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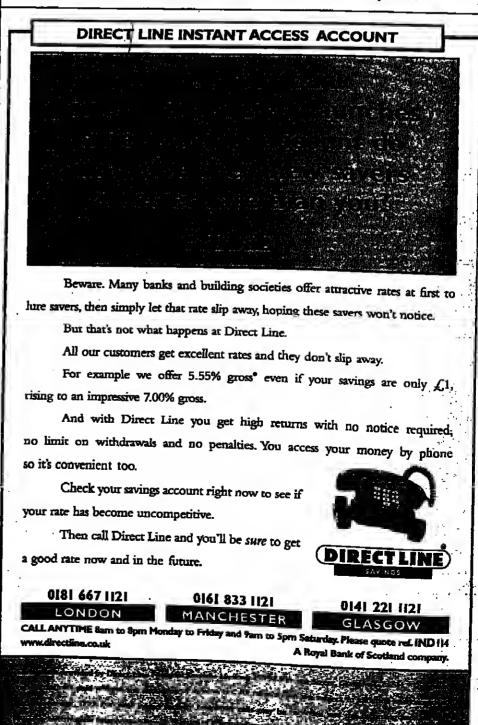
A 23-year-old woman was fighting for her life yesterday after being set ablaze in a firebomb attack in a park. Police scoured the park for evidence as detectives tried to work out why Heidi Brown was doused with what is thought to bave been petrol in an apparently unprovoked attack. She is in the Queen Victoria hospital, in East Grinstead, West Sussex.

Police say she and her boyfriend, Chris Kelly, 28, were set oo as they walked through the park near their home in Bexhill, East Sussex. Detective Superintendent Paul Westwood said: "All we can tell you is what the companioo of this young lady has told us.

"He [Mr Kelly] said he and the lady were walking along the footpath when he thinks there was a group coming towards them and for no apparent reason ooe of them doused her with what he took to be fluid and the oext thing she was alight. He tried to put out the flames, dragged her off the side of the footpath oo to the grass area where there are a number of puddles and tried to immerse her in water as much as he could where she was burning. At this stage we do not have any witnesses."

Mr Kelly, who is also in hospital, suffered burns to his hands.

Detectives are working on the theory that a gang of youths were responsible.



### Heads taking up to 12 years to sack bad teachers

Ministers want bad teachers sacked within a month, instead of up to i2 years as the process can now take. But getting rid of a teacher is a complicated business. as a new study has found. ludith ludd, Education Editor, explains why.

Ministers want the worst teachers sacked within a month and they want all bad teachers to go within two terms. But oew research published today which found that heads were spending up to 12 years negotiating departures also found that it was a complicated matter.

study from Exeter Universitythe first in Britain to look in depth at incompetent teachers - which has been sent to David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, says: "Anyooc who believes that dealing with allegations of incompetence is easy should think again."

The research cites the case of a head who was about to hring proceedings against one teacher to a close. The teacher went sick for 100 days on full pay and another 100 on half pay and the proceedings had to be delayed. Eventually he was giveo ill-health retirement.

Of the 60 heads questioned, three-quarters had brought cases involving incompetent teachers to a conclusion. The rest

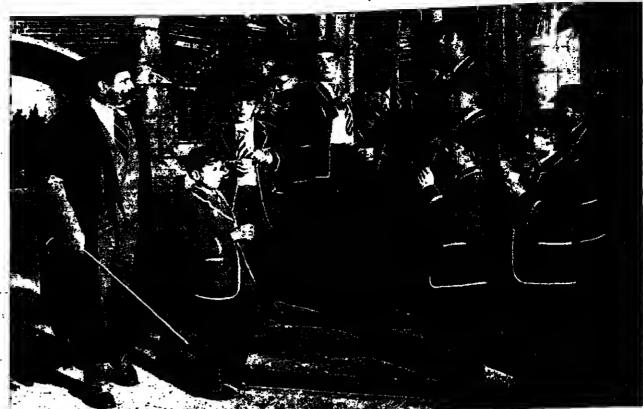
of the completed cases took between 18 months and two and a half years. Three, all involving teachers who kept returning after periods of sickness, took seven, eight and twelve years to complete. No one was eventually sacked. Seven teachers were judged to have improved, and in most of the remaining cases, the teachers' departures were negotiated. Two remained in their jobs with the problems unre-

What is incompetence? According to the heads, the study funded by the Gatsby Charitable Foundation says, the most common problem is the inability to keep order. Bad teachers were not just the permissive ones but

The first part of the two-year were still in progress. About half those who "shouted and harangued children expecting them a lot about their subject had no idea how to make it interesting. Those who did well in one school, could not survive in another. All the cases involved anteachers. Professor Ted Wragg, the study's director, said: "All the heads said the first duty was to the children but, as managers, their job was also to bring teachsolved and two were given difers up to scratch and not just fire ferent duties in the same school. them the minute they faltered. Under employment law, they are obliged to offer them retraining

> Teachers, children, pareots, governors and local authority officials will be questioned during the rest of the study.

and a chance to improve."



Photograph: Kobal Collection Out of order: Actor Jimmy Edwards portrays 'Sir' behaving badh

### Probe ordered as summer schools get mixed report

Children attending the Government's literacy summer schools made great strides in reading during the course but, like other II-year-olds, slipped back even further than their original level by the start of this term, research has revealed. Now ministers want to find out what goes wrong in the holidays, says Lucy Ward, Education Correspondent,

fights for

) attack

The school standards minister, Stephen Byers, yesterday ordered an urgent investigation into why children lose ground as they transfer from primary to

The move came after an evaluation report on the Government's flagship literacy summer schools, disclosed in yesterday's Independent, revealed that children who had attended the schemes showed "a significant decline" in reading test scores over the four months between their final summer term at primary school and their first term at secondary.

A cootrol group of children which had oot attended the 50 summer schools showed an almost identical decline over the

same period. The fall-back among the pupils taking part in the project came despite evidence, demonout by the educational charity which ran the scheme, that at least half of the 1,500 children who atteoded made reading

courses, according to tests at the beginning and end.

The Government yesterday used those findings to claim spectacular success for the literacy schools initiative, while acknowledging that the other evaluation, conducted by the independent National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER), had uncovered "worrying evideoce of the way that children's achievement can be hampered in the transfer from primary to secondary school".

The literacy courses, funded by a mix of government cash and private sponsorship, were targeted at 11-year-olds who failed to reach the expected level of English at the end of their primary schooling.

As plans were announced yesterday to extend the scheme to 500 schools oext year, govchanges were needed to ensure pupils maintained the progress made during the courses.

The source said: "This shows there has to be a proper followthrough to the benefits children are clearly gaining in the summer school so they are not dissipated when the kids go away oo hohday or play with their friends."

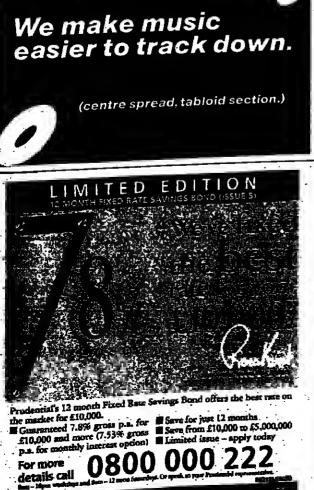
Next year's courses are oot expected to be longer, but organisers are likely to examine the possibility of providing a programme for children leaving summer school to follow for the rest of the holiday.

The NFER acknowledged that its study compared highstrated in a second study carried stakes national tests taken by pupils in their familiar primary schools before the holidays with tests taken in the second week of term at a new school, progress of six months or more but say its findings nevertheless during the two- or three-week echo previous research.



That'll be the

Daewoo.



### Crisis over as Saddam lets inspectors back to work

allow US arms inspectors back into the country to resume monitoring its weapons programme, ending a three-week crisis with the United Nations. America and Britain both claimed Iraq had won nothing in return. Harriet Martin, in Geneva, and Rupert Comwell report.

Iraq, in a joint statement with Russia, annunced vesterday that it would let all United States weapons inspectors Secretary, Robin Cook, stressed return tn the country, allowing the UN Special Commission on with Saddam Hussein. "He has weapons inspection to resume its work.

Baghdad radio said Iraqi and Russian leaders had exchanged views which "resulted in an agreement to defuse the crisis. We are happy about it." It said the agreement gave Iraq hnpe that UN sanctions imposed after it invaded Kuwait in August 1990 would be lifted.

The annuncement defuses a three-week-old stalemate between Iraq and the US which had precipitated a military build up in the Gulf, raising the threat of US retaliatory action. Thrugh the US continued its arms build-up yesterday, it now seems unlikely that there will be mately be lifted. anv strikes.

Iraq had prevented the UN weapons inspectors team from gaining access to sites, and then harred the American members of the team from the country.

Yesterday's communique was released in Moscow and Baghdad after an emergency meeting in Geneva between the five permanent members of the Security Council - the US, Russia. France, Britain and China. Durgrnund had to be made up. ing the meeting the Russian after the three-week absence of makov, annnunced that the Iraqis had agreed to allow the resumption of weapons inweapons inspectors, including the same number of Americans, back unconditionally.

hrnkered during talks in New York today.

Iraq agreed yesterday to Moscow earlier this week between the Iraqi deputy Prime Minster, Tariq Aziz, Mr Primakov and the Russian President, Boris Yeltsin. The meeting in Geneva stressed the "importance of the efforts in solidarity" of the permanent five and reiterated calls for "unconditional and complete fulfilment by Iraq of all the relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council."

Diplomatic sources described it as a "much needed unifying statement" after it became clear that only Britain was prepared to back US threat nf military action against Iraqi nnn-compliance. After the meeting, the British Fnreign that no deal had been struck not won any compromise. There are no concessions. There is no deal. There is no commitment nn the part of the United Nations permanent five to lift those sanctions," Mr Cook said.

The US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, said the Iraqis "are prepared to have the inspectors return unconditionally." Britain, the Inne

unequivocal supporter of the US through the crisis, yesterday doggedly insisted that President Saddam had gained nothing through his manoeuvrings of the past three weeks - other than in set back the date at which sanctions might ulti-"We're back to the status quo

ante," a senior British diplnmat said, stressing that Russia had made its undertakings to President Saddam to work for an easing of sanctions "on behalf of Russia only." As far as Britain was concerned, sanctions would only be removed when Iraq complied fully with Security Council resolutions. In the meantime, "quite a lot of

In teturn for allowing the spectinns diplnmats anticipate that Iraq may win some limited concessions at a special The agreement had been Unscom meeting to be held in



Foot soldier: An Iraqi girl stamping on an American flag at a rally in Baghdad yesterday after it was announced that weapons inspectors would be allowed back into the country Photograph: AFP

### **Baghdad wins concessions** from UN's pyrrhic victory

Saddam Hussein has achieved most of his aims in his confrontation with the UN. Patrick Cockburn says that Iraq believes it is seeing the beginning of the end of its political and economic isolation.

For six years American policy towards Iraq was, as Tony Lake, former US National Security Adviser, put it: "To keep Saddam in his box." The way in which the crisis over the UN Special Commission (Unscom) inspectors overseeing the de-struction of Iraq's strategic weapons is ending, shows that the Iraqi leader is getting out of

Only at the most superficial level has Iraq climbed down over the expulsion of the UN members of the inspection team. Saad Qasim Hammoudi, head of Arab and International Committee at the Iraqi parliament, said in Baghdad yesterday that Iraq agreed to the return of the inspectors on condition that Russia would guarantee a series of measures.

He said they included "reviewing a balanced representation off UN Security Council's members] in the UN Special Commission and suspending the inspection of presidential sites and the flights of the Britain standing alone. The viser she cut short a visit [American-operated UN] U-2 it to the Gulf of Madeleine to go to the meeting.

plane." The ruling Revolution Comman Council had earlier confirmed that the inspectors, including Americans, could return as early as yesterday.

The return of the American inspectors' may mask from US opinion the significance of Washington's losses in the crisis. "Iraq has succeeded in changing the rules of engagement," says Laith Kubba, an Iraqi opposition intellectual. "It has realised it has a strong card in suspending the inspection team which it can do again."

Other important gains from

Baghdad's point of view include the return of Moscow as a power in the Middle East, Its influence has been limited in the region since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. Now the successful mediation by Yevgeny Primakov, Russia's Foreign Minister, has made Russia a player again. "The Americans must have been desperate to allow the Russians back in," Mr Kubba says. Nor is this a one-off development. Moscow was already signalling its renewed strength in the Middle East earlier this year when it rebuffed US and Israeli demands that it stop helping Iran develop a new missile.

The crisis also underlined the divisions in the UN Security Council over what to do about Iraq. Despite the show of unity at Geneva these turned out to be deep, with the US and

Albright, the US Secretary of State, which was meant to rally support among Arab states which had opposed Iraq in the Gulf War, had the opposite effect. Even Kuwait, the victim of invasion in 1990, opposed the use of force against Iraq.

For all the heavily publicised build-up of US and British military force in the Gulf over the last month, the effective military nptinus open to the US were limited It could attack installations in Iraq suspected of housing materials relating to strategic weapons. But, unlike the Gulf war, when the aim was to free Kuwait, the objective was

no Innger clear. Significant also for Baghdad will have been the signs of division in the US administration. When an official close to Mrs Albright said the US might offer a little carror to get Baghdad to resume co-operation with Unscom, William Cohen, the Defense Secretary, denied it. Finally, the White House said it would consider relaxing sanctions on Iraqi oil sales if Iraq complied with inspections, and also signalled US flexibility on the composition of inspection teams.

There was also uncertainty in Washington about Russian mediation. At a news briefing on Tuesday, Sandy Berger, the National Security Adviser, played down the proposal, saying it was doubtful Mrs Albright would be in Geneva. Hours lat-Britain standing alone. The viser she cut short a visit to India

### Russia basks in rare success

Russia's mediation in the Iraq crisis has given Moscow new hope that it is still a powerful force on the international stage.

It was a triumph for a nation that has long felt neglected in the wake of its lost empire. It was a foreign victory abroad for a President grappling with a scandal at home. And it was a vintage performance in the negotiating career of a wily former Soviet spymaster.

The deal, brokered by the Yevgeny Primakov in talks with seen both as a reminder to the world that Russia still merits a place at the top table, despite Nato expansion and the post-Cold War ascendancy of the United States.

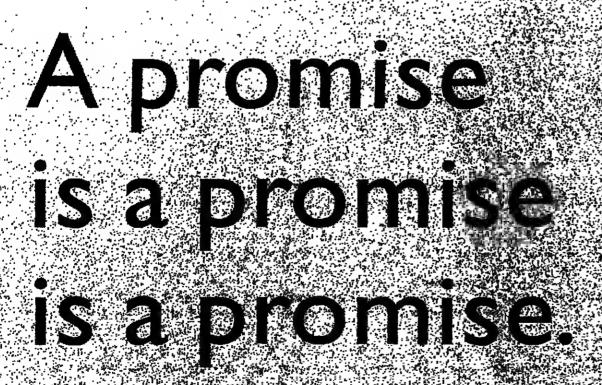
set off to tour Latin America, the Kremlin had the rare pleasure of basking in the glow of international approval.

Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, said diplomats noted his mediation "with appreciation". The French President, Jacques Chirac, scrawled "Bravo For Primakov" on a congratulatory note to Boris

Mr Primakov's success was the fruit of a relationship with Russian Foreign Minister Iraq which has deep roots. Russia's interests in the region includes multi-billion dollar oil and gas development deals. The 68-year-old minister, who speaks Arabic, has personal ties with Saddam Hussein with in vain, during the 1991 Gulf arrived.

For President Yeltsin, the deal was a welcome addition to his efforts to establish his credentials as a world statesman, an amhition reflected by his endless round of meetings with other leaders this year. It is also a distraction from a corrupting scandal over his close adviser, Anatoly Chubais.

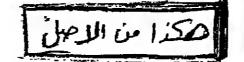
Above all, it was a day in the sun for Mr Primakov, a veteran Middle East hand who worked in the region as a Prayda journalist and Soviet diplomat. The former head of Russia's foreign intelligence service wil feel he has shown Moscow still holds the key to some international relationships and that the US-run "unipolar" world (a conwhom he negotiated, albeit stant complaint) has not yet



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# Talking shop offers little hope for jobless

One in five Europeans live in the shadow of unemployment. Diane Coyle, Economics Editor. asks whether a gathering of Europe's leaders in Luxembourg this week will deliver more than a photo opportunity.

There are nearly 20 million people in the European Uninn who are looking for work and cannot find it. As many again have given up the unequal struggle and withdrawn from the jobs market.

Solving Europe's unemployment problem is a challenge the British Government has set itself for its presidency of the and for the G8 summit of world leaders in Birmingham in June.

Meanwhile, sceptics expect little concrete action to emerge from the Luxembourg summit which ends today. Politicians from the high unemployment countries such as Germany and France are hesitant even to agree to targets for reducing jobthat these could be achieved.

five years, although seemingly at the price of increased inequality. On the internationaljohless rate is below 7 per cent and America's below 5 per cent, compared with rates in double figures in France, Germany, Italy and Spain.

But there is little willingness on the part of the Continental leaders to admit that they can draw lessons from the Anglo-Saxon successe

Launching his Employment Action Plan, the UK's contribution to this week's debate, Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, He said: "We need to find a third way between rampant free-market economics and EU in the first half of next year, stifling over-regulation, combining economic efficiency and

For many economists, window dressing. Charles Bean, an expert on unemployment at the London School of Economics, said: "There is no magic bullet - it is a fight on many fronts. But we do know lessness, so unsure are they which policies will help get

people intn work."

cut their jobless rates to almost agreement that a high minimum acceptable levels over the past wage for young people and a high ratio of benefits to earnings are unhelpful that "active labour market policies", such as ly accepted definition, Britain's jobs advice, support with application forms and travel to interviews, are helpful.

John Philpott, director of the London-hased Employment Policy Institute was no fan of the Conservatives' boasts about the benefits of flexibility. But he agrees with most experts that mainland Europeans need more deregulation, more entrepreneurship, a lower minimum wage for young people.

"Suggesting that a 35-hour week will create jobs is just acknowledged this difficulty. crazy," he said, voicing the widespread view amongst the profession that this French plan has everything to do with domestic politics and nothing to do with sensible economics.

Whatever comes of this plan, the European Commission is however, talk of a third way is proposing at the summit "four pillars" for creating employment that are built on this consensus.

The leaders will sign up to these motherhood and apple pie sentiments in Luxembourg. Whether they will then go home and get down to the nitty gritty of policies that might help peo-So, for example, there is ple into work is more doubtful.

A digital camera

that gives a whole

new meaning to the

term 'roving eye'.



Regeneration: Lesley Porter, a single mother, has found work in Cardiff's new industries Photograph: Andrew Buurman

### A city which learned to be flexible

People in Cardiff are more 'flexible' than Continental workers. says a senior Welsh economist. Barrie Clement, Labour Editor, finds a new attitude to work.

spent much of the recession lonking after her son.

But as her home city of Cardiff staggered out of the economic gloom, she began to take temporary typing work. Now Ms Porter, 34, has

found a permanent job as cler-

Lesley Porter, a lone parent, ical assistant with ERES, a jobs have come from companies marketing and economic consultancy which services public tional headquarters and also from local firms expanding. authorities in the area and economies abroad - just one of many service jobs being creat-

> nanufacturing Courtesy of South Glamorgan Training and Enterprise Council, Ms Porter has npdated her information technology skills and is now looking forward. to her flexible working week becoming full-time as the firm

ed in the Welsh capital, which

and centre of steel making and

takes on more business, Inevitably, the most prominent heneficiaries of the economic upturn have been shaps and stores which endured some of the unemployment which

had grown in the city. According to Calvin Jones, head of economic research at Cardiff City Council, the retail sector has seen a dramatic increase in jobs of around 40 per cent between 1991 and 1997.

Almost as impressive has been the surge in employment third in five years. The Cardiff nearing completion has deliv- ply makes steel," he says. ered much of the increase in

building employment. The recovery has also yielded a 33 per cent rise in banking. insurance and finance jobs although salaries are just 80 per cent of the UK average in the sector. Many of the 2,600 extra

establishing regional and na-

Manufacturing employment has remained steady at about 20,000 between 1991 and 1997 grew up as a coal exporting port and overall the number of jobs in Cardiff has risen to 160,000 - an increase of 6.2 per cent since the end of the recession.

But why should Cardiff, in common with many other British cities, have so many jobs during the recovery?

Part of the reason is believed to be the hire and fire powers given to management by the previous government which have enabled companies to take people on in the knowledge that it will be relatively easy to get rid of them..

But Steve Hill, a senior economist at Cardiff Business School, believes that the emergence of a new attitude to work and how it is organised has been far more important.

He gives the example of the nearby Llanwern Steelworks where contractors have taken on in construction - up by about a most peripheral tasks - even down to transporting the steel Bay development project and in between one part of the plant particular the tidal barrier now and another. "British Steel sim-

The New British Worker is also more flexible than his Continental counterpart. To put it crudely people are more likely to do as they're told my management and be prepared to perform a wide range of tasks without objection."

### Germans' work. cut out

Michael Reichert is ton busy to worry about Germany's unemployment. On weekdays the caterer gets up at 4am, buys provisious and prepares his sandwiches to be ready when office workers start in Bonn's government district. He does 80 hours a week, has no paid holidays and cannot afford to fail ill.

Mr Reichert, 35, is the sort of person Chancellor Helmut Kohl counts on to rescue Germany. Such people, not publicly funded erand projects, will put 6 mil lion Germans back to work.

"I would love to work less," Mr Reichert says. There is no competition. I've got people coming to me from other towns, to see how I do it, so they can start a business at home."

He is not deterred by the ages he would have to pay. which, with compulsory health and unemployment insurance and pension contributions add up to the world's highest. He would need capital initially, but the rewards would be enormous.

"I would love to hire two or three people, but I cannot afford to. I would need about DM50,000 (£17,800) to expand, but no one will lend me the money. The government is offering a scheme to young starters, but the loans are administered by the banks. When you go to the banks, they don't want to know."

That's the end of that. Mr Reichert's present business, which he started two years ago, is about the tenth job in his career. After school he did an apprenticeship as a maintenance fitter but found his skill redundant. "That was really bad," he says. He has also been a decorator, cook, prison guard, policeman and textile wholesaler.

He feels he has displayed enough of the "flexibility" Mr Kohl is banging on about, and hopes his present line of work will be his last. "I am not getting any younger. I think I will stick to this now." The sky is the limit - credits

permitting. Anyone out there with DM50,000 to spare? That also happens to be the cost of keeping one German on the dole for one year.

- Imre Karacs, Bonn

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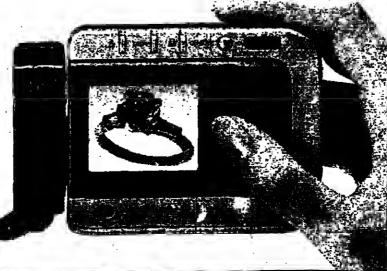


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# 11/MPs' INTERESTS

## Downey's rules strike terror into the heart of the Commons

The number of Commons consultancies, with MPs acting as consultants to outside interests, has crashed in the wake of the Nolan Report. Anthony Bevins, Political Editor, examines a dramatic change of culture at Westminster.

The new Register of Members' Interests, issued for the first time since Labour's election landslide over the Tories, was published yesterday.

Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, reported that following the 1995 report from Lord Nolan's Committee on Standards in Public Life, the Commons had decided that MPs had to register all agreements "involving the provision of services in his or her capacity as a Member of Parliament".

Agreements, which had to be deposited with Sir Gordon, have to be registered with fees received in bands of up to £1,000, up to £5,000, and, then, in bands of £5,000. It would appear that the exposure of the previously endemic consultancy process has acted as a severe deterrent - as Lord Nolan might have expected.

Sir Gordon said in an introduction to the new register yesterday: "While it is too early in the new parliament to be certain of long-term trends, it is notable that the number of commitments of this kind undertaken by Members has fallen by some two-thirds compared with the register published in March 1996, when the rules would appear to have put constituency)." That gift was new rule came into force."

Nolan era, introduced following the cash-for-questions saga - the



The ayes have it: The Speaker Betty Boothroyd has declared three pairs of spectacles in the new Register of Members' interests

whom they receive payment, was loaned a Ford Mondeo by And even: "In the case of any the Ford Motor Company "for 'one-off' beoefits such as visits and gifts recorded in this register, the advocacy rule will apply for the period of a year from registration."

such a degree of terror into the The new register also un- minds of MPs that they have der the rules, it would appear derlines another feature of the started to declare even the that Mr Murphy is barred for a slightest details of their lives.

David Marshall, Labour MP complete ban on MPs' "engag- for Glasgow Shettleston, for ex- mons question or speech. ing in advocacy on behalf of out- ample, has declared the fact that

final terms of sponsorship for the Tory leadership candidates a test drive". Denis Murphy, in May and June this year - with Labour MP for Wansbeck, de-William Hague getting the lion's share of financial backing. clares the gift of a "small crystal figure of unknown value by

His biggest supporter was Mr Leslie Koo, President of Harris Ventures Ltd, who donated £74,000 to the Hagne campaign. The company is registered on 27 July, and, unowned by Lord Harris of Peckham, one of the treasurers to the Conservatives, Mr Hagne's camyear from advocating the inpaign received more than terests of Synpac in any Com-£110,000 in all, compared with £42,000 for Kenneth Clarke, Another element thrown up whose largest backer was a Nat side bodies or persons from between 13 and 27 February he by the register yesterday was the Purl, who gave £32,000.

### Browsing through Westminster bazaar

Free tickets to Japan. Florida, Jamaica, the Henley regatta Twickenham, Silverstone, Wimbledon-even the Speaker's spectacles are now being spousored by outside companies.

Tony Blair and John Major had so many free trips and junkets over the past year, as Leader of the Opposition and as Prime Minister, that they both evidently feel it would be invidious to identify them. The Prime Minister's office said last night that Mr Blair had not registered a family visit to the Silverstone Grand Prix for the same reason that Mr Major had not registered his numerous visits to Lord's on the Oval crickds. But, in that, they are a rarity indeed in the nex Register of Members' Interests - which delivers an entertaining

ight into what MPs get up to in their free time. Free travel has always been a perk of the MPs' gravy plane and Labour left-wingers prove no exception. Diane abbott, MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, registered a return air ricket to Jamaica for a three-week private visit last Christmas, provided by Air Jamaica; while Tony Ranks, now minister for sport, declares "tickets" to Morida, in January, provided by Elizabeth Duff Travel.

Other far-flung destinations, courtesy of outside sponsors and governments, included trips to Japan by John Maples, now shadow health spokesman, and Roger Godsit, Labour MP for Bruningham Sparkbrook and Small Heath Quentin Davies. Conservative MP for: Grantham and Stamford, declares sponsored visits over the past year to Dublin, Paris, Versailles, Amsterdam, Berlin, Italy, Germany, Berlin (again), Italy (again), and Berlin (again). Ken Clarke, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, went to Silverstone courtesy of the RAC, Tim Boswell, Conservative MP for Daventry, courtesy of Silverstone Circuits; and Peter Hain, now a Labour minister, courtesy of RAC and the Williams Grand Prix Racing team.

Jack Commingham, minister; for agriculture, declared visits to the English National Ballet, Wimbledon, courtesy of Coca Cola; and the Globe Theatre, courtesy of Unilever, while Labour backbencher Judith Church, MP for Dagenham, went to Lord's for an England v Australia Test Match, courtesy of Glaxo-Wellcome; Wimbledon, courtesy of Barelays Bank; and Wimbledon (again), courtesy of Rhone Poulenc Rorer, the pharmaceutical company. Stephen Timms, Labour MP for East Ham, who attended a performance of the Messiah at the Banqueting Hall, Whitehall, courtesy of British Gas, went to the Wimbledon Men's semi-finals, also courtesy of Barclays.

The register also contains one admission from the Prime Min-ister, who declares: "Secondment of assistant to my Sedgefield constituency office by Barclays Bank, Newcastle, for one year, from 6 October 1997." And the Speaker, Betty/Boothroyd, declares: "Three pairs of spectacles were provided to me free of charge by Safilo UK." One MP said last night that it gave a new meaning to the Commons catch-phrase: "The ayes have it, the ayes have it."

### DAILY POEM

#### **Touch**

by Bizabeth Jennings

Touch. How much it starts and how much ends. Each sacrament demands it and all love, Whether of passion or the play of friends,

Asks for its use. God started this world of Shape and substance. The whole universe Stirred by his touching it at every move.

Eden - the potent tale of our reverse, Was darkened by the picking of a fruit When touch was disobedient. Its curse

Spoilt touch and yet it also somehow brought God-Man to us and put him at our will. Touch can demonstrate an arcane thought

And love starenders when its power goes still.

Today's selection from the five poets who have won this year's Paul Hamlyn Foundation Awards for Artists comes from Elizabeth Jennings's recent collection In the Meantime (Carcanet, £6.95).



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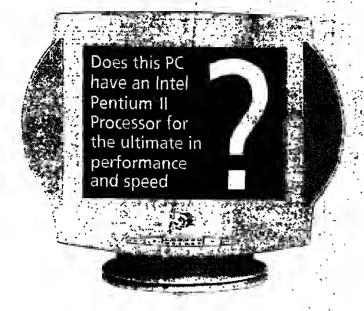
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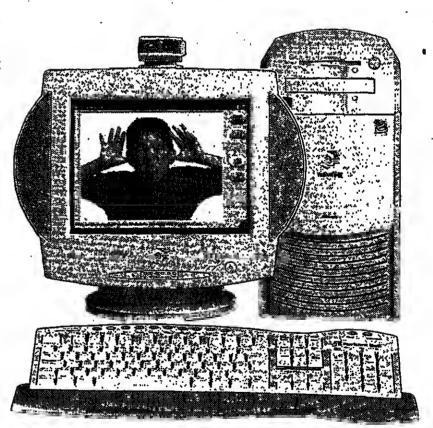
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# Rail link threatens film location with unhappy ending



Britain's finest period film location is likely to be destroyed. One of the last surviving parts of Dickensian London, where Howard's End. 101 Dalmatians and The French Lieutenant's Woman were shot, will be demolished if Railtrack builde a new viaduct, writes Clare Garner.

Maria Moruzzi has made few concessions to modernity in the 37 years that she has run the Borough Café on Park Street, a conservation area just beyond Loodoo Bridge. But Mama, as she is known, has always obliged the stream of international film crews which have beateo a path to her door.

Most recently, she allowed her caff to be converted into a butcher's shop for the film version of George Orwell's oovel Keep the Aspidistra Flying, starring Helena Bonham Carter and Richard E Grant, which is released today. Soon, however. it woo't be a location fee that she is picking up, hut a relocation fee.

pulsory purchase order on he said Borough was the ooe Maria's old-fashiooed caff, where she lives and works with her daughter Mariarenza. When told they would receive £1,500 in return for leaving, they knew their days of serving bubble and squeak to the stars were oumbered. "The supermarket has been slowly destroying the market. Now they want to do stroy us completely," said Maria.

Nineteeo other households in this pocket of the past have beeo issued with the same order by Railtrack, whose £580m Thameslink 2000 project is designed to improve public transport in the South-east. The 1787 Wheatsheaf pub will be demolished, as will Greeo Dragon Court, with its simple Georgian façades, and the roof langer. "It just ain't on."

of Borough Market, the country's oldest covered fruit and vegetable market dating back to the 11th century. With them will go the living film set.

Christabel Albery, director of the London Film Commission, described Borough, as a "unique" location. "If we lose Borough it will be a major, major problem for us. We have fewer and fewer substantial period locations left in London. I wouldo't be exaggerating to say Borough is used weekly."

Borough has a reputation for being a versatile and accommodating location. "You can get away with shooting lots of different styles of sequences," said Ms Albery. "You can use the shops, the market itself, the streets, Southwark Cathedral, the arches. You can shoot any period from 1820 onwards ... They're also unusual here in that they are pro-film. Lots of communities we go into think film-makers are a nuisance, but you come here and you're welcomed with opeo arms."

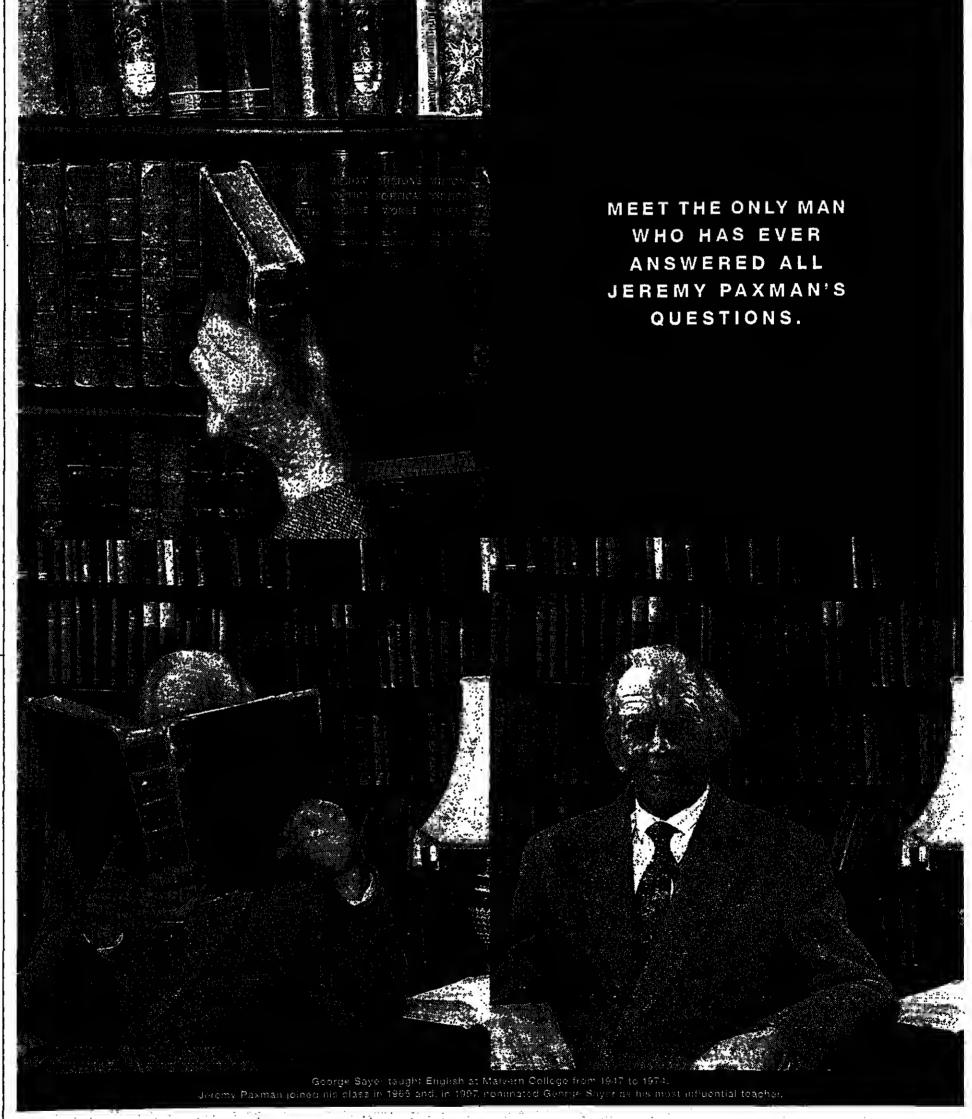
Just last week Christian McWilliams, a freelance locatioo manager, showed around London the American director of Entrapment, a 20th Century Fox film, starring Sean Con-

oery, to be shot next year.
"I took him to the Lloyd's Railtrack has issued a com- Building and Canary Wharf, but place he knew he wanted to come to," said Mr McWilliams. "I bring film-makers here because of the architecture, atmosphere and streets. There's oothing like it in Loodon."

Mike Challanger, a painter who has lived oext door to the Borough Café for the past 21 years, has started a campaign ave the area. On Wes day, Railtrack submitted a Transport and Works Act Order for its new viaduct at Borough Market to improve the capacity of the railway between Blackfriars and London Bridge. Residents have 54 days to object to the proposal before it goes to a public ioquiry. "If it happens, we could be out of here in a year," said Mr Chal-



Life on the street: Homes and businesses opposite Borough Market, Britain's oldest covered fruit and vegetable market (left), are to be demolished to make way for a railway viaduct. But with their demise will go a unique demise will go a unique period location, used most recently for the film version of Keep the Aspidistra Flying (far left), starring Richard E Grant Main photograph: Rui Xavier



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### Lebed stokes up fears over Russia's suitcase A-bombs

When Alexander Lebed first claimed the Soviet Union had manufactured suitcase-sized nuclear bombs, his remarks were dismissed as nonsense. Yesterday, as Phil Reeves reports, he supplied fuel to a controversy that will not go away.

The former head of Russia's Seeurity Council. Alexander Lebed, has added new flesh to his claim that the Soviet Union manufactured suitcase-sized nuclear bombs, by publicly annnuncing their name, weight and specific purpose.

Undeterred by Moscow's

denials that such bombs ever existed, the former paratrooper general said they comprise a variant, the RA-115-01. They weigh 30kg, he said, and were "very compact" weapons designed to destroy warehouses and control points.

Although he did not specifically repeat his view that some nf Russia's stockpile of the bombs are unaccounted for, his remarks are likely in anger the government, which has pooh-poohed the allegations. Igor Valynkin, whose department in the Defence Ministry oversees nuclear security, said in September that "nuclear suitcases have never been produced and are not now being

produced," although he admit- idential decree on bringing ted the existence of nuclear general said they comprise a mines. Moscow's disclaimers land-based weapon called have been school by Western RA-115 and an underwater diplomats But Me Lebed's al ... legations have been taken more seriously in a linery and diplomatic circles. It is known the Soviet Union and US developed small tached more legations.

during the Cold War.

Addition Yablokov, a former Yeltsm adviser, said portable nuclear bombs were made in the 1970s for actionist purposes. Last month life told a US congressional committee he was "absolutely octain" they existed and had set someone in-volved in their construction.

This month reports circulated that he was summoned in

"compact nuclear weapons" under secure control and arranging for their destruction.

Others outside Russia also appear to be convinced: when asked by The Independent about the bombs several weeks ago, a Western military source said: "We know about them." .

Mr Lebed, speaking at a press conference promoting his latest book, said none of the alleged weapons had been authnrised for use by the government

"Now we can be pretty sure that they won't be, they have turned from ammunition of national importance into a potentially perfect weapon for nuclear terrorism and nuclear



Model cause: Part of a collection 80 Barbie dolls on display in Milan, most dressed by top fashion designers such as Versace and Gucci. They are to be auctioned in aid of breast cancer prevention Photograph: Stefano Reliadini/Retiters

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# Eta signals an end to the bloodshed

Eta, he Basque separatist group, yesterday made its first serious conditatory gesture for years, potentially opening the way for dialigue to end three decades of violence. Elizabeth Nash asks whither the breakthrough amounts to more than rhetoric.

The Basque separatist organisation Eta yesteday anniunced the "total suspension if planed actions" in its campaign to bring pisoners dispersed throughout Spain in jals nearer home in the Basque country. Trey called instead far "Basque citizens, institutions and political parties to unite to nultiply pressures for prisoners' rights, tn schieve the goal of transferring prisoners".

If these words are translated into deeds. i would mean the most important policy change for the armed organisation for years, in admission that its bombs-and-bullets strategy had failed. For more than two years, Eta has been conducting a high-profile "prisons campaign", attacking prison officers and carrying out hunger strikes and behind-birs protests.

The announcement, published in the Basque pro-Eta newspaper Egin, came aheadof a meeting last night of the interior ninister, Jaime Mayor Oreja, with Basque parliamentary leaders in discuss policy tovards prisoners. Mr Oreja said yesterdavin response to Eta's statement: "Eta must ay clearly it will stop killing ... That's the only thing Spaniards want to know."

Bisque leaders have cautiously welcomed the move. The leader of the conservitive Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) MP in Madrid, Inaki Anasagasti, hailed the declaration as "a little truce".

prompted by the realisation that armed actions have been catastrophically counter- oners. The government refused, and Blanproductive, prompting anti-Eta co was killed, prompting the biggest mbilisations of millions throughout Spain. outpouring of popular protest Spain has seen. Is 1996, Eta kidnapped the prison officer Jese Antonio Ortega Lara, saying they vould release him only when Eta prisooas were moved to the Basque country.

rom an underground hole after 532 days of pro-Eta Herri Batasuna party on trial before aptivity that left him a broken man. Days later, Eta kidnapped a conservative couning with terrorists. A verdict is due shortly,



Civil war: A supporter of the pro Eta Herri Batasuna party clashes with fellow Basques after the death of hostage Miguel Blanco

The turnaround seems to have been village of Ermua, and threatened to kill him outpouring of popular protest Spain has seen.

Eta has been very quiet since then, and it was widely felt in Basque political circles that the July events had bumiliated the organisation and plunged it into crisis. The cause In July, police rescued Mr Ortega Lara was not helped by having 23 leaders of the the supreme court charged with collaborat-

dications were that Eta sympathisers were putting out feelers to try to recoup lost leader cast out by younger radicals, when questioned recently about this possibility laughed and said: "People who have cut me for years are now greeting me in the street ... I think something is up."

More specific was Joseba Eguibar, deputy leader of the PNV which controls

against the trial were a conspicuous flop. In- Speaking recently in San Sebastian, regional capital of Guipuzcoa where Eta sympathies are concentrated, Mr Eguibar said: "HB has ground in Basque public opinion. One told us they want to take the political lead, prominent lawyer in Bilbao, a former HB as Sinn Fein has done in its relation with the IRA, and no longer behave as Eta's puppet. We also hear that if HB adopts this strategy, then Eta might conclude that the armed struggle no longer serves any purpose."

Another straw in the wind was offered by the Bishop of San Sebastian, Jose Maria Setien, who said this month that talks the Basque regional government and is an with Eta should occur even before the guncillor, Miguel Angel Blanco, in the Basque but attempts by HB to drum up protests ally of the ruling Popular Party in Madrid, men declared a cease-fire. "Let's talk first like ashes in his mouth.

and see if its possible to negotiate, and what conditions are necessary." This argument contradicts the government's view that contact is unthinkable until Eta lays down arms. Bishop Setien, who is widely respected in the region, was denounced in Madrid as a Nazi and a madman. But fellow bishops have quietly lined up behind him.

Mr Mayor Oreja has long been under

pressure from his Basque allies to improve prisoners' conditions. But the realisation that concessions now will be hailed by Eta as vindication of their new line must taste

### Sinn Fein seen as an example

Although many differences exist be-tween Eta and the IRA, there are also striking similarities between the stages now reached in the violent separatist campaigns waged by Basques and by Irish republicans.

The close links which exist between Sinn Fein and some Basque organisations mean that Eta will be well informed about the Irish peace process. This, over a period of years, has led to the present IRA ceasefire and the consequent inclusion of Sinn Fein in multi-party talks on Northern Ireland's future.

The fact that both conflicts have dragged on for up to three decades is important, in that sheer longevity was a factor in bringing republicans to re-think their approach. When violence has gone on so long, with no ultimate victory in sight, those involved tend to become more thoughtful, often more politicised, and sometimes readier to examine alternatives to bombs.

The suggestion is now that Eta violence might in time take second place to the activity of a developing political wing. Although many continue to regard the IRA with the utmost suspicion. it is indisputable that its political wing, Sinn Fein, has grown more and more important within the movement.

The hope of both the British and Irish governments is not that Sinn Fein will at any point defeat the IRA. Rather, the theory is that, as Sinn Fein becomes ever mare deeply immersed in politics, a return to IRA bombing will come to be seen as unthinkable.

An important part of this theory is that a political avenue should be opened so that the more political elements can make progress, and gradually convince the militarists that politics can achieve more than terrorism.

In Ireland, the issue of prisoners has also proved important, republicans and reformers arguing that early releases or transfers closer to home can help create goodwill.

— David McKittrick Ireland Correspondent





### **North Korea** spy takes suicide pill

South Korea announced it has arrested several members of a North Korean spy ring. The spies' assignments throw light on the North's continuing obsession with overthrowing the South

South Korea's intelligence agency said yesterday it had uncovered a North Korean spy ring and arrested six agents, including a prominent professor at Seoul's top university.

A husband-and-wife team described as "moles" were also arrested. However, the woman committed suicide during the investigation, the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP) announced.

The spy ring was discovered last month, when an official of a left-wing group reported in the police that he had been contacted by the couple, who had tried to recruit him.

The intelligence agency said the couple. Choi Chung-nam, 35, and Kang Yun-jung, 28, had been sent to the South in August, slipping in through the west coast in a submarine. The agency said the two had married in 1990 in Pyongyang under nrders from their spymaster and had named their son "Namhyuk" short for "Revolution in self she suddenly took nut the

South Chosun [Korea]". Their assignment in South Korea included contacting resident spies, recruiting new members, gathering bus, train

safe house of a top North Korean defector Hwang Jang-yop.

A preliminary investigation nf the couple led to the detention of Koh Young-bok, 69, an honorary professor at Seoul National University. Professor Koh, whose uncle went Nnrth during the 1950-53 Korean War, became a spy in 1961, though he portrayed himself as an anti-North Korean conservative.

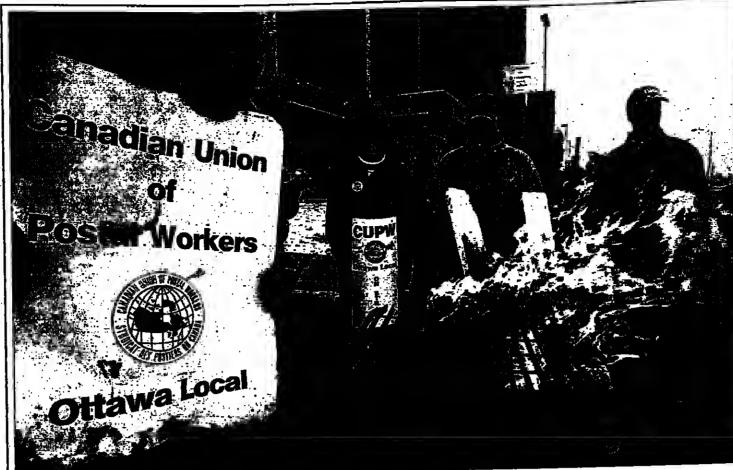
The intelligence unit also detained a family of three, saying that the family head, Shim Chung-woong, 55, an official at the Seoul Metropolitan Subway, had been nrdered to devise plans to paralyse the city's subway system.

The probe also found that Li Il-nam, the nephew of North Korean leader Kim Jong-il's former wife, had been assassinated by agents from the North. The agency said that Li, who had defected to the South, was shot to death in February.

The agency said five of those detained would be prosecuted for violating the country's National Security Law.

Kang Yun-jung killed herself during the investigation with a capsule of liquefied cyanide gas hidden in her vagina. A senior investigator Koh

Song-jin told a news conference: "She was taken to a bathroom escorted by a female investigator. While trying to wash hercapsule from deep inside her ... We rushed her to the hospital." "I have come for the unification of my nation and I cannot betray General Kim Jong-il," Mrs and plane schedules, finding Kang was quoted as saying corn seeds and locating the when she was first detained.



Cold front: Striking members of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers try to keep warm on the picket line in Ottawa yesterday. Around 45,000 postal staff walked out after they were threatened with job cuts due to a shortage of mail

### US environmental chief quits for UN post

Casting a shadow over critical global warming talks that begin nn 1 December in Kyoto, Japan, Tim Wirth, the US Under-Secretary of State who had been expected to lead the American delegation, is resigning his post in order to manage the \$1hn donation recently made by Ted Turner, the American media magnate who founded CNN, to the United Nations.

Although Mr Wirth, 57, who is a former US Senator from Colorado and a longtime supporter of the environment movement, will ant technically leave the State Department until the year's end, it was thought likely yesterday that he would be replaced as leader of the United States team at the Kyotn talks.

The unexpected change dismayed many in the environmental community. The Kyoto meeting, which aims to bring 160 countries together to sign a global treaty on reducing the emission of green-

wide gap between the European Union and the of any frustration with the US position ahead of United States. Hopes that those differences could be bridged were partially being pinned on

"It's not a great signal," said Greg Whetstone, nf the Natural Resources Defense Council in Washington. He emphasised that Mr Wirth's presence in Kyoto was considered vital because of his "intimate familiarity" with the complicated issues involved. Just a week ago, Mr Wirth confirmed that there were "still significant disagreements" between the EU and the US on the agenda for Kyotn. Washington wants a treaty that would return emissions of gases like carbon dioxide to 1990 levels. Taking a harder line, however, Europe wants emissions reduced to 15 per cent of what they were in 1990.

Mr Wirth has publicly denied that he was

house gases, faces possible failure because of a motivated to leave the State Department because Kyoto. Rather, he said, he was attracted by the challenge of being President of the United Nations Fund that is to manage the historic donation made by Mr Turner two months ago. Mr Wirth will raise additional money and oversee distribution of cash to UN projects.

But in detailing all of the areas in which he expects to the new fund to operate, ranging from immigration, to international crime and the environment itself, Mr Wirth hinted at dissatisfaction with how the US government, and the State Department functions. "These are new issues," he told the New York Times. "We have these new issues and in a way you have old bottles. You have systems set up at the State Department and elsewhere that were designed for a Cold War era." - David Usborne, New York

# Genocide suspects | Blair b

Almost 300 people died when Rwandin Hutu insurgents attacked a jail for getpcide suspects in north-western Rwanda, se regional military commander said.

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Kayumba Nyamwasa said 1,200 rebes attacked the jail in Giciye, east of Giseny, on Monday during fighting between the army and rebels; 88 prisoners died, mos of them caught in the crossfire as they trie to escape. Others were burned to death af ter the rebels firebombed the jail; 93 prisoners escaped.

The attack led to two more days of fighting, in which, Colonel Kayumba said, two soldiers and 200 rebels died. The jail, a makeshift detention centre, is one of hundreds around the country housing many of the estimated 120,000 people awaiting trial on charges of involvement in the 1994 genocide, in which 800,000 Thisis and Hintu opponents of the regime were killed.

It appears the rebels were trying to free their fellow Hutus, presumably to boost their own numbers. It is less clear why the rebels should have set fire to the prison. Col Kayumba ruled out the possibility that the soldiers had attacked the prisoners. There have been a number of similar attacks since the insurgents stepped up their campaign of violence in May. – Amelia French, Kizali

### Jerusalem shooting

A gunman ambushed two Jewish semintry students in the Old City of Jerusalem ysterday, killing one and seriously wounding the other. The students belonged to a group called Ateret Cohanim (Crown of the Priests), which is dedicated to replacing Palestinians with Jews in the historic ares of the city.

The attacker used a sub-machine gu to shoot shot one student in the leg and fired six more rounds after he fell to the ground, killing him, police said. He was named as Gabriel, Hirschberg, 26, who moved in Israel from Hungary eight years

The second student, wounded three times, fled to a nearby house in the Muslim quarter of the city in which the cabinet minister Ariel Sharon nominally lives, though it is also owned by Ateret Cohanim. The attack shows the mounting tension between Israelis and Palestinians over control of the holy places of Jerusalem. - Patrick Cockum, Jerusalem



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# Blair backs Harman over cut in lone-parent benefit

The Government was facing rebellion by Labour MPs on a £6-a-week cut for new claimants of lone-parent benefit. But, says Colin Brown, Chief Political Correspondent, Tony Blair is standing firmly behind Harriet Harman.

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The Prime Minister's office yesterday threw its weight behind Harriet Harman to face down volt over a £6 a week cut in loneparent child benefit.

It was made clear that there would be no change in the policy, in spite of the threat by Labour MPs to try to embarrass the Government with a vote in the Commons before Christmas.

Mr Blair's personal backing

cial Security underlines his determination not to allow her to be picked off by the left wing a growing Labour backbench re- who are beginning to flex their muscles for the first time on the issue after a stormy confrontation at the weekly Parliamentary Labour Party meeting.

"There was a clear majority in favour of the Government's approach. We have got a number of policies being imple-

ernment policy," the Prime on BBC radio. Minister's office said.

member of Labour's national for enforcing the policy, signalling the critics were not seeking to make it a personal

too. The policy was agreed be- Brown is not a great one for claimants do not seek work. The fore the election and it is gov- . backing down," Ms Abbot said

More than 80 MPs, includ-Diane Abbott, a left-wing signed a Commons motion in off welfare ioto work. executive committee, blamed July attacking the plans inher-Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, ited from the Tories which would abolish the higher singleparent rate of income support and child benefit for future confrontation with Ms Har- claimants - worth up to £10.50 mented to deal with poverty and man. "It's not really her - it's a week for some families and fo of Labour MPs were against the

move is incorporated in a Bill to implement the Government's commitment to spend £200m in ing 17 Liberal Democrats. a new deal to lift lone parents

Another attempt will be made to reverse the policy when the Social Security Bill returns to the Commons next month after its committee stage. Ms Abbott said a wide spectrum

by Audrey Wise, a veteran leftwinger, and some members of the new intake including Ann Cryer and John McDonnell.

Labour MPs accused the whips of stuffing the standing committee with loyalists to ensure the Bill got through unamended. A group of women protesters shouted "Labour scum" when it was approved. Alan Simpsoo, a leading

for the Secretary of State for So-cial Security underlings his dothe Government would change of policy. "Labour didn't stand on a manifesto which said we would launch first-strike attacks on single parents. The pol-

icy should be changed." Defending herself yesterday, Ms Harman said: "I am quite determined what we should do is keep our promises to the public to stay within the budgets of the departments but also to

### Mercy killing by GPs gains support

The Government was last night Lindsell had sought, she facing growing pressure to legalise mercy killing by family doctors to ease pain and

Joe Ashton, the veterao Labour MP, last night tabled a Bill to allow doctor-assisted dying for patients suffering distress as a result of terminal illness or an incurable disease.

given legal backing for eu-Lord Lester amid growing concern that the law is in need of time would come," he said. reform.

The police were yesterday believed to have passed the papers in the case against one GP to the Crown Prosecution Service for possible prosecution for administering a lethal dose of said it was still opposed to eudrugs to ease the pain of a ter- thanasia. "Anyone alleged to minally ill patient.

against motor neurone disease, Annie Lindsell last month won a High Court assurance that action by her GP, Dr Simon Holmes, to relieve her pain in her final moments would be legal. Although it fell short of the formal legal declaration that Ms

stopped her case declaring that it was a victory for patients all over the country.

But Mr Ashton said GPs were still facing prosecution. and the law needed clarifying. He said that his own mother's terminal illness had convinced him of the need for a change in the law. "There should be The demands for GPs to be change in the law. I saw my mother die with a wasting disthanasia were reinforced in a ease and she was down to four Lords debate last night led by stone when she died. She often said to me that she hoped that

> Mr Ashton, the MP for Bassetlaw, said that there should be strict guidelines on such mercy killing, requiring the consent of the patient's family.

The Government last night have undertaken euthanasia is After years of fighting open to charges of murder or manslaughter. We firmly reject calls to legalise euthanasia and we note the view of the House of Lords Select Committee on Medical Ethics that a new offence of mercy killing should not be introduced."

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— Colin Brown



Jacqui Lait, the Tory candidate, canvassing outside a polling station during yesterday's Beckenham by-election Photograph: Peter Macdiarmid

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### Unionist talks falter

A hotel in Belgravia was used yesterday by the Ulster Unionists and the Irish government in an attempt to kickstart the crossparty talks on Northern Ireland, which are showing little progress.

Bertie Ahern, the Irish Prime Minister, described as "friendly" his meeting with the Ulster Unionist Party leader, David Trimble, and his senior Ulster Unionist MPs.

Highlighting the friendly mood, the Unionists joked with Mr Ahern that they could take the moral high ground because they had a woman on their delegation.

But the two sides emerged after two hours with no fresh agreement. Mr Trimble said they had demanded an early commitment from the Irish government to end Ireland's constitutional claim to the North, Mr Trimble said: "We did make it clear that there has to be substantial change and change that is going to be, as it were, judgeproof. We can't have a situation where things are agreed and then it later turns out, perhaps in an Irish Supreme Court decision, that it means something quite different to what was thought."

The Taoiseach told the Unionist team that he wanted acceptance of cross-border bodies with executive powers for services such as transport, fisheries, and tourism.

The British Prime Minister, Tony Blair, is today expected to press Mr Ahern to meet the Ulster Unionists' calls for clarity on the constitutional claim at an EU jobs summit in Luxembourg.



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### Dome under new attack both inside and out

The £750m millennium Dome project drew a cynical response from MPs yesterday. David Lister and Fron Ahroms hear them express surprise that no one yet knows what will be inside the Dome.

by MPs about the millennium Britain's celebrations in 2000.

As Conservatives attacked what they said was a paucity of information about the project in Greenwich, south-east London, the chairman of the Select Committee for Culture, Media and Sport said he was sur- achievements over time and prised that no thought seemed to have been given to transport within the site.

After a visit by the committee. Gerald Kaufman said children and pensioners were "going to get very tired". But when he asked about this at the site, it appeared that no thought had been given to internal transport.

Simon Jenkins, a millennium commissioner, former editor of the Times newspaper and one atrium" or a university. of the original architects of the project, told the committee yesterday that transport was a matter for Millennium Experience, the company organising the exhibition, but "alterna-

tives are being explored". Mr Junkins came under strong questioning from Labour MP Claire Ward about the lack of public interest in the Dome and the lack of knowledge about what the exhibition might contain. Ms Ward said: "When success of the project," he said.

we first started this inquiry, I was under the impression it was the public at large who had no idea what was going to be in this exhibition. As we have proceeded, I have discovered that those involved don't know ... I still believe very strongly that we have to bring the public into this and we are not doing that."

Mr Jenkins responded: "If you take the Festival of Britain in 1951, nobody remembers More alarm has been expressed—the contents. They remember the buildings. In the same way Dome as the centrepiece of the 1851 exhibition was about the Crystal Palace."

Mr Jenkins pledged that the £750m exhibition would be an "exciting show the whole world will want to see". Based around the theme of Time, it will be split into personal or body time, global or environmental time. There was no reason in principle why it should not continue into 2001, which many people regard as the true beginning of the new millennium, he added.

Lord Rogers of Riverside, the Dome's architect, told the committee the huge "umbrella" structure could be put to any number of uses after the exhibition, including a "village in an

media and sport spokesman, Francis Maude, said the public had been given almost no information about the exhibition. "Up to £400m of lottery money has been publicly committed to the event, and no details have been given of what it is that will attract 12 million visitors ... By keeping parliament and the public in the dark, Mr Mandelson is endangering the





### Weber puts fantasies on display

Fifty-one fantasies of adolescence Inspire the American photographer Bruce Weber's alternative exhibition at the Zelda Cheatle Gallery in London.

The photographs of a modern Adonis concentrate sensually on a young man's physique, and runs concurrently with an exhibition of Weber's more conventional work at the National Portrait Gallery.

The collection of hand-tinted photographs, entitled "Chop Suey" and which opens tomorrow, traces the fantasies and possibilities of youth, through the image of 2 16-year-old professional wrestler, called Peter Johnson.

Johnson is seen dressed in a variety of costumes and posed in different situations. He blends into each scene through what Weber calls his "chameleon quality". In some photographs he takes on the image of famous personalities, such as Neil Young and Serge Gainsbough, and In others he is dressed as a Louis XIV courtier, or is seen riding a camel or an elephant.

Weber (above) took two years to produce the 51 photographs, and his inspiration came after meeting Johnson at a wrestling camp in lowa. Weber says that Johnson's father "sent me a letter saying how beautiful his son was. I wanted to make a record for his parents".

All the photographs in the exhibition including Peter-Burma Dreaming (left) - are coloured to suite the mood. Each session was embarked upon with few pre-conceived notions, but as the possibilities developed Weber says "it was like wrapping up a gift for somebody's birthday, and hoping that they liked it".

--- John Voos

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### US art collector gives Tate £1 m Lichtenstein

An American art collector has given the Tate Gallery in London a £1m painting by Roy Lichtenstein, the quintessential American pop artist who died last September.

The work, called Interior with Waterlilles 1991, belongs to Lichtenstein's final thematic painting series of interiors, which he began in 1991. Derived from the style of advertisements used in the Yellow Pages directory, the images are presented in Lichtenstein's familiar style which employs striped diagonal lines, black outlines and flat areas of colour. The waterlilies of the title are part of his contin-

uing homage to Claude Monet. The painting will be the centrepiece of a memorial display at the Tate, which was an early supporter of Lichtenstein, from tomorrow until March next year.

The benefactor is Douglas Cramer, a collector and television producer. Mr Cramer said: "Interior with Waterlilies was the only one of Roy's works owned by the Cramer Foundation and Roy specifically told me it would give him and Dorothy [Lichtenstein's wife] great pleasure to have it find a home at the Tate Gallery."



Interior with Waterlillies 1991, given to the Tate by Douglas Cramer, the television producer responsible for Dynasty

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# 19/FEATURES

# Joanne Rowling's secret is out



Joanne Rowling: 'I didn't tell anyone. People would ask me what I had been doing and I would just say I'd been out walking'

Photograph: Graham Barclay

With lightning speed, Joanne Rowling's first book has propelled her from struggling single mother to prizewinning children's author. She tells Ann Treneman that it's as if she'd stepped into one of her own stories ...

Joanne Rowling is a star now but you can tell that she does not really helieve it yet. Just a few years ago she was penniless single mother living on henefit in a grotty flat in Edinburgh. Now, at 32, she is well on her way to being a rich and famous children's writer. Her book Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone has sold 30,000 copies - a phenomenal number for a children's book - and this week it won the Smarties Book Prize. She is thrilled but, when we meet, she 40, mand boxes of manuscripts about Harry Posters. seems more star-struck than star-like.

"I never, ever dreamt this would happen. My realistic side had allowed myself to think that I Harry is magic and is certain to become a legend might get one good review in a national newspaper," she says as her four-year-old daughter Jessica plays with a Hercules doll next to her. "That was my idea of a peak. So everything else really has been like stepping into Wonderland for me."

And that was no small step in a number of ways. Joanne has been a secret scribbler all her life - "I remember vividly writing a book when I was five about a rabbit named Rabbit who had the measles" - hut she never saw herself as a writer. Her scribbles were for her eyes only and the only people who even knew about it were those who lived with her and saw how the paper kept stacking up. It was a compulsion that was to carry her through her childhood in the Forest of Dean, her university days at Exeter and, later, through endless lunches when she worked as a secretary and a teacher.

"It was a secret, People at the office used ask me if I was coming down the puh and I would say that I was going shopping. And then they would ask me what I had bought! I just felt embarassed about saying, well, actually I'm writing a book. I've met so many people in hars who say they are writing a book and it means that they've written down a few ideas in a notebook."

In Joanne's case, however, what it means is books as in plural. At the moment her drawers are full of two novels for adults - "I must remember to burn them before anyone reads them" the boy wizard who is rescued by owls and attends the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. as the star of Rowling's whi al novels

The story of how Potter came to be is almost as engaging as the boy wizard himself. Joanne had the idea in 1990 during a train trip from Manchester to London. "It was extraordinary because I had never planned to write for children: Harry came to me immediately, as did the school and a few of the other characters such as Nearly Headless Nick, the ghost whose head is not quite cut off. The train was delayed and for hours I sat there, thinking and thinking and thinking." When she got home, she started to write.

- She was still scribbling away the following year

when she went abroad to teach English as a foreign language. There, she got married to a Portuguese journalist and had Jessica. The marriage didn't last and, when Jessica was just three months old, Joanne headed back to Britain with a suitcase full of nappies and Harry Potter adventures. She went to Edinhurgh to visit her sister for Christmas and decided to stay. "I decided it would be easier to he utterly poverty-stricken in Edinhurgh than London."

For the first time in her life Joanne did not have a proper job. She couldn't afford child care and for six months lived on benefit. I decided this really was crunch time. I told myself that I was going to carve a book out of this mass of papers." Thus began an extraordinary - and secret - effort. "I didn't tell anyone. People just say out walking. I think they thought I was . I went to my favourite café to reread the editvery strange and possibly depressed. What I was actually doing was walking round town with Jesrun intn a café and write for two hours."

I say that it sounds pretty strange, "I was aware of how barmy it sounded and I do think the few I told thought it was harmy. I think they thought: Oh my gnd, she's really on her uppers and now she wants to write a book!" She went to the library and looked up a list of children's book agents. She couldn't believe it when the first one she wrote to, Christopher Little, wrote back and asked to see the rest of her book. She read that letter eight times. "It was an extraordinary moment because it was a tiny speck of lished by Bloomsbury, price £4.99.

light at the end of the tunnel."

That speck soon started to glow and then glare. The book was snapped up by Bloomsbury and Rowling received a substantial advance. She is particularly pleased about winning the Smarties prize (ages nine to 12) as it is judged by both adults and children. The book has now been sold to eight countries - the American deal alone was worth some \$100,000 - and Hollywood is interested too. "When the American deal came through, that meant security. It means that I can buy a flat. It means not worrying. The constant mind-blowing worry of wondering if you are going to be able to last the week without buying another pack of nappies. That is how it was and it is a horrible, horrible way to live."

Gradually she is adjusting to the good life. words ask manufact I had been doing and I would . "I have my moments. The other day in Edinburgh ed version of the second Harry book (she plans seven in all). Jessie was in nursery, because now money to pay for her to go to one that she likes. I had a sticky bun and a cup of hot chocolate and I had this moment of divine revclation. I thought I am the luckiest person in the world. I am now heing paid to do what I have been doing my whole life for nothing. I can sit here and know that this book is actually going to be published. Then I suddenly realised: I am a writer. I'm heing being paid for It now. This is not my secret shameful bahit that I don't tell anyone about any longer."

'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' is pub-

### Get the rabbit habit

Don't tell me you haven't got the health insurance, says David Robson

They've never been short of ways of making you feel insccure, the bastards, and then they make you pay through the nose They stir up your neuroses about your house, your job, your possessions, your old age, your children's education, your heart, your lungs, your teeth. But not, so far as I know, your rabbit. It was only Glenn Close who got at anyone through their hunny. And there were extenuating

Then Rachel called. She was a PR and usually such people get short shrift. But Rachel was strangely compelling:

"Have you heard the news? Rabbits are the hot pet." My mind lolloped to thoughts of our Snuffles sitting quictly behind the settee, chewing it. "I'm not sure hot is how I'd describe it," I said, "Boring, yes, Warm, perhaps, But not

"When I say hot," says Rachel, "I mean HOT. Executive women are keeping them instead of cats and dogs. And City women."

"Oh sure," I said, "and you can call me Roger." "And you can call me Jessica," said Rachel. "Anyway, Roger, I'm phoning to tell you about Rabbit Insurance?"

Did you say Rahhit Insurance?" "Sure," said Rachel. "The little darlings can have terrihle trouble with their teeth and it's bellishly expensive when they do. Cost you an arm and a leg."

Five minutes earlier I didn't know that rahbits were hot. Now I was starting to feel that they're not so hot. "An arm and a leg?"

"Sure. The teeth grow at tremendous speed. If you don't give them enough to chew on they're absolute martyrs to dental malocclusion,"

"Yes, hay or straw. Their teeth have got work away for at least six hours a day. Otherwise it's malocclusion city. And there's a good chance of anorexia."

And thus was one of the unworrying figures in my life, a small, trouble-free and not especially captivating example of "companion animal" (that's what Rachel calls them) turned into a potential volcano of pus, intestinal mayhem and crippling expense.

"One in 10 consultations at the vet's are about rabbits, hut vets know pitifully little about them. They're also-rans at veterinary schools. I think they're still classified as exotics." "Exotics? Now I've heard everything." "No you haven't," said Rachel, rather firmly, and embarked

on another more gruesome story about teeth. "Yes the roots of the top ones sometimes grow right up into the eye." "Oh come off it, Rachey, you'll be telling me they're prone

to ulcerative pododermatitis next." "My god," she gasped, "you're really getting the point. Actually we had a conference with the British House Rabbit As-

sociation and 180 vets came. It was an eye-opener for them." "I bet it was. At least for those whose eyes weren't full of teeth, if you get my drift."

"Now less of that please," said Rachel. "People don't realise the damage they're doing."

"Oh Rachel, stop. You're scaring the life out of me." "Oh my dear paws, oh my fur and whiskers," said Rachel. "The point is that for a mere £36.45 per year you can have Rabbit Plan and all your worries will be over. But it's £53.85 if you live in London."

"Gee thanks Rachel," I sighed, reaching for a standing order. "Until you phoned I didn't even know I was worried." ne. And how was I left? I animal caught in the headlights, that's how. Then I saw my

mate John across the office. "I've just had a rather disturbing phone call," I said. "And I'm worried about my Snuffles. I'm not feeding him right. I'm not holding him right and he's got no health insurance." "Health insurance?" snorted John. "Bloody pension plan more likely. Rabbits are never ill and they live for ever. If I knew how to get rid of one, I'd sell the formula."

"How about a one night stand with Glenn Close," was my whimpering riposte.

Rabbit Plan is available from Petplan freephone 0800 282 009.

### Will the real Winnie Mandela please stand down









For every challenge she presents a different face, says John Carlin. But behind the carefully painted layers, the truth about Winnie Mandela just gets uglier.

Take your pick. Brave Winnie, bad Winnie. Pensive Winnie, scheming Winnie. Dotting wife Winnie, dissembling cuckolder Winnie. Thoroughly modern Winnie, corrupt mamma Winnie. The African National Congress, having sat on the fence for far too long, has finally chosen. In a blistering attack in a Johannesburg newspaper yesterday, an article signed by Steve Tshwete, the Minister for Sport, described Winnie Mandela as a paranoid, selfserving, treacherous charlatan. No one is in any doubt that Mr Ishwete was expressing the hitherto-repressed views of the

leadership of Nelson Mandela's government.

So at last it's official. The Mother of the Nation is, after all, the Mugger of the Nation. Winnie, as a celehrated South African newspaper headline once put it, is in the Poob. For no longer can she paint her detractors to be "elements of the white liberal press" working hand-in-glove with sinister agents of the old apartheid regime. The empress's clothes have been removed and the dirty secret that festered in the bosom of the world's most illustrious liberation movement has been exposed for all the

world to see. The organisers of last month's Million Woman March in Philadelphia, a celebration of black American women's devotion to family values and social responsibility, may now feel a pang of retrospective shame at their decision to honour Mrs Mandela with an in-

vitation to be their keynote speaker. They and the rest of her admirers ahroad, those who have wanted to believe that the real Winnie is the female Martin Luther King/Joan of Arc figure she has so diligently sought to portray, will not be inviting her again any time

Yet to have kept the myth alive, to have fooled so many people for so much of the time, has required a certain genius, however tinged with evil and madness. There is method in her multiple personality disorder. It is the method of those hiologically-refined political animals - whether benign or malignant, whether Tony Blair or Mobutu Sese Seko - whose every nerve-ending is tuned for the pursuit and retention of

in the days leading up to her husband's release from prison she played the part of the quivering virgin, seeming to contemplate with trepidation and delight a consummation that like Ulysses' Penelope - she had so devoutly and patiently been awaiting. Once he was out, she acted for the photographers the role of the simpering, adoring spouse. The terrible truth had to wait six years until Nelson Mandela's poignant testimony at the couple's divorce trial. "Ever since I came hack from jail, not once has the defendant ever entered the bedroom whilst I was awake."

All the while, in fact, she had been having an affair with a toyboy lawyer half her age, but she kept up the public lie not out of any delicacy of feeling for the old man but because she knew it would be to her political advantage The secret of her political

survival since the marital break-up is her amazing brazenness, explicable only in Right now she is, once again, terms of this idea of Winnie as political animal driven by un- her script.

controllable instinct, combined with a rare talent for populist manipulation. She knows what faces to prepare for the faces that she meets; she fits her language, her style of dress, her varied collection of wigs to meet the expectations of each crowd.

In her latest incarnation as Queen of the Poor, Evita to those sectors of society most susceptible to her rhetorical fraudulence, she had built a political platform for what seemed like her frighteningly plausible hid for the South African deputy presidency.

By acting now, the ANC leadership hope they have banished the possibility that one day Mrs Mandela could be a heartbeat away from becoming yet another all-powerful mooster on the African political scene. But don't rule her out. repainting her face, rewriting



Models Hobbies Toys Games

# Bill Clinton 0, Saddam Hussein 1. So what is the US strategy?



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What is going on with Iraq, and why should it matter to us, as we buy our groceries? Tony Blair thinks it matters. This week in the Commons he laid down the law to Saddam Hussein in simple, populist language. "It is absolutely essential that he backs down on this - that he be made to back down ... If he does not, we will simply face this problem, perhaps in a different and far worse form, in a few years' time."

Well, he hasn't backed down at all. The US and Britain have, in effect.

The real import of what has happened is that Saddam Hussein called the US's hluff by expelling the UN weapons inspectors. Moreover, he seems to have lost nothing by it. After yesterday morning's nocturnal meeting in Geneva, amid talk of breakthrough and a resolution of the crisis, it was ootable that President Clinton and his Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, sounded grudging and sceptical. "We'll wait and see whether he does in fact comply with the will of the international

community," said Mr Clinton. And the US military build-up goes on. Hoping for peace, the US is still preparing for war.

The message from Washington is clear. But it has to be spelt out because, earlier this week, the White House strategy of bluffing Iraq into submission by uncompromising talk and a massive show of strength came badly unstuck.

In an error entirely of the Administration's own making, a State Department official disclosed that the US might countenance a more flexible sanctions regime. That told Iraq that it could treat the warmongering pictures being beamed in on CNN (which functions at times like these like a virtual back channel for US diplomacy) as mere sabre-rattling. Like everyone else, the US was prepared to deal. Once that cat was out of the bag, the US had to try doubly hard to look tough.

A few British Harrier jump jets hovered supportively in the background. The British and Americans may stress the

united front presented by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council whose foreign ministers met in Geneva in the early hours of yesterday morning. But the fact is that the US wants to be tougher on Iran than at least three of the other five, and it cannot act tougher without destroying the sham unity that offers the one hope of letting Iraq off the

hook completely.

This is not a satisfactory situation for anyooe. Britain has been dragocoed into his historic role as chorus-and-numbersmaker to the US. But solidarity in the United Nations is important and sometimes requires the contribution of British arms and personnel, which is why Saddam's crimes should matter to us all. Mr Blair and Mr Cook were right to support Mr Clinton in his attempt to enforce the rule of international law.

The trouble is that, for a nation that prides itself on its "can-do" attitude, America's sense of the possible has been conspicuously lacking during the current crisis.

Desperate not to repeat the mistake of his predecessor in personalising the conflict as President of the United States vs arch-devil Saddam Hussein, Mr Clinton has remained largely in the background, appearing every now and again to move a new piece of military hardware and say something unyielding. At least he was

Meanwhile, the Pentagon was distracted by a trip by the defence secretary, William Cohen, to the Far East and China, which was cancelled because of the Iraqi crisis. And the Secretary of State, on the other hand, went ahead with what was intended as a major flag-waving tour of the Indian subcontinent. Two major drives of US diplomacy were thus derailed.

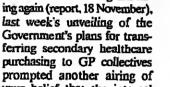
This left the way clear for Russian-French diplomacy. When the wily Yevgeny Primakov looked as though he might have a success on his hands, the US had rapidly to join the discussions in Geneva, or be left on the sidelines.

Now, as the world waits to find out whether Iraq really will allow the inspectors back, and what the UN has given away in the small print - the deal that surely exists, however much everyone denies it -Washington has left its allies facing an uncomfortable question: what is the real aim of US policy?

Does it really want only to resume UN inspections, with Americans back in the teams? Is it trying to be the conscience of that nebulous "international community", insisting that Iraq observe every dot and comma of UN resolutions before sanctions can be ended, even if the "international community" is not that sure any more? Or is Washington's prime objective to prolong Iraq's pariah status until someone more congenial is in power than Saddam Hussein? That is what Iraq suspects, and Washington's handling of the current conflict will have done little to disabuse it.

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### LETTERS



Government's plans for transferring secondary healthcare purchasing to GP collectives prompted another airing of your belief that the internal market has provided a "lever to efficiency" in the NHS (leader, 12 November). If this were true, any benefits have been squandered by the extravagant contractual paper chase inherent in the purchaser/provider split.

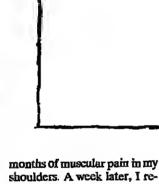
Reviving the NHS Sir: With NHS waiting lists ris-

The longer-term contracts proposed should reduce hureaucracy and there is a slim hope that GP collectives will prove more sensitive than health authority officials in judging priorities in hospital practice, However, the fundamental flaw in the contractual approach to hospital funding wili remain: over-performance is anathema and trusts invariably strive to do the minimum for their allotted income. By this time of year, a large proportion of surgical teams are under instruction not to treat waiting-list patients covered by completed health authority contracts or by the increasing proportion of impecunious GP fundholders. These restrictions apply irrespective of spare capacity and the knowledge that 70 per cent of NHS spending is consumed by salaries, so that the cost of treating additional patients in terms of drugs and disposables is relatively small.

Before 1990, the ethos of NHS hospitals was to undertake as much activity as possible within a fixed budgetary allocation. The challenge to the Health Secretary is to revive this simple concept alongside rigorous resource management and performance monitoring. The information systems necessary for analysis of activity and outcome are in place. A national inspectorate ("Offsick"?) could set standards and should be able to reward excellence or improvement with modest financial incentives in the form of development grants. MALCOLM SIMMS Consultant Surgeon Selly Oak Hospital

Birmingham Sir: Last mooth, I was referred by my GP for an emergency consultation with a specialist at

Bedford County Hospital after



ceived an appointment four mooths hence. By taking a short-term cancellation, however, I saw him three weeks ago. Among the treatment prescribed was physiotherapy once a week at the hospital.

On the first appointment, my eyes fell on a notice stuck to the wall in my cubicle. It stated that over the last 12 months, an average of six hundred appointmeots per month had failed to show. According to the staff, none had cancelled in advance, so oo one oo the waiting list could have those missed appointments.

No wonder waiting lists are so long, and rising. One solution would be to levy a fine for non-appearance without a legitimate excuse. The money raised would be of use to our beleaguered NHS. MICHAEL JOHNSON Cranfield, Bedfordshire

# Challenge to Islam

Sir: This time last year we were at Luxor, and we are horrified at what happened on Mooday. We loved Egypt so much we are booked to return this weekend. We hope still to be able to go.

We were able to discuss with our tour guide the modem Egypt -- its culture, customs. education and political system. I remember asking him, a deyout Muslim, his views on those we describe as Islamic fundamentalists in Iran, Afghanistan and elsewhere. He became quite aggressive, describing them as being far from the teachings of Mohammed. In his view they were simply people

seeking power at any cost. Is it not time for the religious leaders of Islam to speak out and not only condemn these atrocities, but make clear that the perpetrators do not represent the teachings of the Prophet? Or are they to remain

silent, like the Christian hierarchy who failed to condemn the Nazis? It is not easy to stand up and condemn dangerous fanatics. But history shows that the alternative is worse. NEIL MACMILLAN Harpenden, Hertfordshire

### All my own work

Sir: Michael Streeter claims that a draft part of the latest revision of the Government Information Service's Red Book shows the "unmistakable hand" of Alastair Campbell ("New Labour puts its spin on government information", 20 November).

Actually, the hands are mine alone, and they describe the best practices to be found within the GIS now. My intention - agreed with fellow Heads of Information - is to make them universal. Furthermore, the "high-minded words" reflect those in the current Red Book, published years ago.

For the record, my department and others equipped duty press officers with the kit which amazes your reporter well before the last geoeral election oot least to help careful journalists check the facts.

MIKE GRANATT Head of the the Government Information Service Home Office London SWI

#### Chaplin's childhood

Sir: Your article (18 November) on a newly discovered film oo the life of Charlie Chaplin suggested that Chaplin didn't want it released hecause it "revealed his working-class beginnings"

implying that he was a snob. Chaplin constantly spoke about his horrendous Lambeth childhood and wrote about it at length in his autohiography. He spoke about his birthplace at East Lane, Walworth, and how, wheo his

mother was taken into a mental bospital, he endured first the horror of a Victorian orphanage and then his struggle to survive the streets by scavenging for food out of hotel dustbins.

CAN WE GO

HOME NOW, YOUR

MAGNIFICENCE?

If Chaplin didn't wish the film to be released it was probably because he objected to impersonators. While he lived his screen character was his own

JOSIE STEPHENSON Brentwood, Essex

#### Smoking gun

Sir: Michael S Masson (letter, 15 November) claims that he has never seen a restaurant in which you could not smoke in the US. I can list four restaurants on my block in which smoking is not only oot per-

mitted but against the law. You called such bans "American-style". Mr Maxson is from Toledo, Ohio, and his letter suggests that Toledo is America.

### MI5's missing files

Sir: This week's release of MI5 files has turned out to be a spook public relations exercise, as expected (letter, 14 October).

I gianced over the files myself on Tuesday. They are mostly MI5's official in-house histories for 1909-19, of which several have passages hianked out, three have gone "missing" and one has been withheld. The original operational files were long ago destroyed, with just two exceptions (and these too have sections blanked).

Full-time employees are listed, but the names of officers have long been available elsewhere, and infiltrators, narks and agents provocateurs remain anonymous. Still, at least we now know who MI5's typists and "charwomeo" were.

I found no reference to the agent-provocateur activities of the MI5 offshoot PMS2, which in 1917 framed a family of socialists on ludicrous charges of plotting to assassinate Lloyd George with a poisoned air-rifle pellet while he was playing

Contrary to the hype, the story of MI5's successes against It was written up as early as 1920 by Sidney Felstead with (as one of the newly released documents confirms) assistance from within MI5. Io truth, MI5's achievements in this field were akin to shooting fish in a barrel, and largely parasitic oo the work of other agencies. DAVID TURNER

#### Bath, bed and table

Borden, Kent

Sir. "In the bathroom of 2020 the water drains through the steam slots in the stone floor to be recycled in a reed-bed and returned to the water table." (Architecture, 20 November.)

Our cesspit does that. ROBERT VINCENT Andover, Hampshire

#### Biblical beards

Sir: Your correspondents (13, 14, 19 November) speculate on whether or not Jesus wore a beard. I'm just wondering how, or indeed why, Galilean fishermen would shave. ANNE CURRIE Richmond, North Yorkshire

# Dilemma: watch big men in bulky underwear, or play pool and eat chicken wings



MILES KINGTON

pens when a Canadian comes to Britain for the first time.

What happens is that this newly arrived Canadian clears immigration, goes to where he is staying, unpacks and walks down the road to find a British pub. He goes into the pub and buys a drink, then turns to look at the television set which is switched on beside the bar and almost faints with horror because there is no ice hockey game showing.

Thase this observation on my experience last weekend, which I spent working on Vancouver Island in the west of Canada, and where I went into as many pubs as possible for reasons which seemed good at the time. In every pub I visited there was

I think I now know what hap- a television set on and every time I looked at the TV set it was showing an ice hockey game. Big men in bulky underwear were wheeling and dealing across the ice, often avoiding each other on purpose, often crashing into each other

on purpose, and very occa-

terest at all in the game were

the people in the pub where the

sionally scoring goals. Everyone was wound up to breaking point, with one strange exception. The players oo the ice seemed tense to the point of snapping. The players waiting to come on at the side looked like troops about to leave the trenches and charge the Germans. The crowd at the stadium were going wild. The only people who showed no ingame was showing. I think I was the only person I ever saw in any of these pubs watching these games. Apart from Gary. Gary was

a man I met in a nice pub called the Horseshoe Bay Hotel in a nice town called Chemainus on Vancouver Island (which sounds small but is actually the size of Wales) and he was watching an ice hockey game on TV between Edmonton and Calgary. He was the only man watching this game apart from me. We sat and watched while everyone else in the pub ate. drank and played pool, including one man who had ordered 50 chicken wings and was slowly picking and licking his way through these joyless objects, which apparently he did every

time he came in, and for all I know he may have decided that it is more enjoyable than watching ice hockey on TV.

"You a stranger?" said Gary. I said I was a stranger. He said he was a goldsmith. He gave me a card more covered in gold than any card I have seen, so maybe he is a goldsmith at that. "Why are you watching this

game?" I said. "Nobody else is." "I grew up in Calgary," he said. "Td like to see them beat Edmonton."

It came as a surprise to me to learn that this was a game between one town and the next. Until then I had started to believe that there was only one ice hockey game on Canadian TV just one never-ending, 24-hour, non-stop, perpetual, ceaseless ice hockey game somewhere in Canada, which goes on endlessly simply for the purpose of being relayed to bars up and down Canada where nobody except me and Gary watches it, but this

cast a new light on matters. "Which is Edmonton and which is Calgary?" I asked. "Edmonton are the badtempered ones," he said.

As aggressiveness seemed to be shared out fairly between both teams, this was not much help. If it had been basketball it might have been different ...

I have to be honest and admit that I did once go into a bar this last weekend in Canada where there was no ice hockey match on the TV. There was a basketball match instead. Basketball is a game for extreme-

ly tall black men, who are told what to do by white guys looking more like university professors than coaches, and these very tall black players never lose their temper in the way that ice hockey players do. Gary told me that the fights between ice hockey players are all more or less pre-arranged, a bit like wrestling matches, and that it all adds to the fun, and the blood

PRIESTLEY

This attitude that anything

not in my back yard is of little

concern is frighteningly Amer-

ican-style. It gives Americans a

bad name and leads to our gov-

emmeot'a unwillingness to ban

landmines (they aren't lurking

in Toledo's baseball fields) and

willingness to bomh countries

Sir: I am intrigued. Esther

Dysoo (Ann Treneman inter-

view, 19 November) is "at the

cutting edge". She "logs

250,000 air miles a year".

Hasn't she heard of tele-con-

ferencing? She has now pub-

lished Release 2.0: A Design for

Living in the Digital Age as a

printed book, using 16th-cen-

tury technology. Hasn't she

heard of the Internet?

GEMMA O'CONNOR

that won't behave.

New York

KENDRA BARBER

Old technology

Despite which, only me and Gary were watching. It strikes me as odd that the whole of the national Canadian televisioo effort was going towards bringing ice hockey to the masses who weren't watching. The masses were all doing civilised things like socialising and drinking, and playing pool, and eating 50

looks kinda nice oo the ice...

chicken wings. Or anything hut watching ice hockey. Except me and Gary the goldsmith. 'Well, that's a draw," said

Gary, disgusted, as after the last possible period of overtime it was still 15-15 to Edmonton and to Calgary. "I won't be watching another match for a while."

"I won't even be here for the next match," I said, as we started watching the first of the interminable after-match interviews, and spontaneously switched off. "So I won't be watching any more ice hockey either. I may not see any more

ice bockey ever again in my life." I just think that the people who run Canadian TV ought to know that last week only me and Gary were watching ice hockey and that this week nobody is.

# 21/COMMENT

### When dangerous liaisons make useful bedfellows



DONALD MACINTYRE LABOUR'S NEW ALLIES

After 18 years of the Tories, it's still a shock to see Juhn Prescott sharing a juke, as the caption writers sadly no longer say, with the Queen Mother at her daughter's golden wedding lunch. The television pictures of the last 48 bnurs have dnne a lnt tn lodge in the collective psyche the image of Labour as the natural party of government. It may mean ministers mingling, as they did yesterday at Westminster Abbey, with a lnt of unfamiliar and abscure members of the coffeedrinking monarchies. But the Royal Family still counts for something as a symbol; these are televisinn pictures you couldn't buy.

Nevertheless, there is more in Tony Blair's ringmaster role in yesterday's celehrations than that. First, the Prime Minister's gushing words at yesterday's People's Banquet went way beyond the routinely respectful. Tony Blair's public assumption of an almost Victorian role as royal counsellor, cemented after the death of Princess Diana, is something John Major, let alone Margaret Thatcher, never quite managed. And what's more, his lavishly expressed affection for the Queen is said to be reciprocated. "She loves him," emotes an official who has seen them together. To judge by yesterday's exchanges, that isn't much of an exaggeration. New Labour and the Royal Family clearly have something significant to offer each other, as the Queen came perilously close to hinting yesterday. From Blair, the Royal Family get modernisation and the hope of renewal just when they most need it. From the Royal Family, Blair gets part of something just as hig: the chance to connect his party and his Government, more successfully than at any time in Labour his! tory, with the still central element of what Even the affection between Harold Wilson - nr Harold Macmillan - and the Queen was somehow never quite like this.

It isn't too much to say that this is part of a pattern. For slowly Tony Blair is starting to identify his party with some of those elements of British society with which the centre left has been much less naturally linked in this century than it was in the last. This is a process which may baffle and alarm many active in the Labour Party. But there is a paradox here: in some, though nnt in all cases, Labour is moving on to ground vacated by the Conservatives during the Thatcher years. Perhaps necessarily, given her agenda, Margaret Thatcher's Conservatives could never wholly rely on large parts of the Church of England, the BBC, the universities, the civil service - even, thanks to Europe, the husiness élite. And if the new Blair inclusiveness means that he can do so in a way they couldn't, the big question becomes: whn is seducing whom?

Though the Prime Minister's most ardent supporters will fiercely deny it, this process may become visible in some imminent decisinns on policy. For example, it now looks increasingly likely that he will overrule, nr at least substantially modify, the plans fermenting in the Department of Education to end the premium £35m a year which Oxford and Cambridge get and other universities don't. In cold, policy terms, the case for continuing to pay the £35m is scarcely persuasive. The huge assets held by the Oxbridge colleges - getting on for £2bn - and their firmidable capacity in raise private funds rather undermine the argument that the premium grant is the only way of preserving their role as élite universities.

To take a wildly different case, the reasons for postponing - to no fixed date - an offer nf Government time for a ban on foxhunting aren't all that convincing either. But that may not quite be the point. It may rather be, to put it hluntly, that in the long term the minuses of protracted, deeply distracting public punch-ups nn cither of these issues greatly nutweigh the pluses. Why make lasting enemies of Oxbridge and its world-wide army of eminent supporters on the nne hand, and on the other a formidable coaliting of pro-hunters ranging from Michael Heseltine to Lord Justice Sir Richard Scott and John Mortimer, when they could ntherwise be useful part-time members of your new consensus?

This may sound unheroic. It becomes less so if its purpose is genuinely lo focus on the lnng-term gnals of improving schools and the painfully beleaguered NHS, and closing the gulf between the underclass and the rest of us. Let's suppose, for example, that as part of the programme of welfare reform Blair and Gordon Brown have to face the middle classes with some hard choices about losing some of the benefits they don't need, to help those who do. They are entitled to appeal to the enlightened self-interest. of upper- and middle-income Britain by urging them to see that less crime and unemployment improves their quality of life, too; hut they will need all the allies they can get.

So the Government has a lot to gain from all this. However, there are caveats. First, rebuilding the link between government and some of the country's most hallowed institutions should not necessarily be confused with an uncritical approach to corporate power; even businessmen need from time to time to he told, as the unions have been until it's coming out of their ears, that they huilding a broad, inclusive coalition stop actinn against entrenched class division, including action through further constitutional reform. The monarchy still has a popular bold on the country; it will have even more of one if it modernises. But the hereditary House of Lords doesn't. There are no signs of a retreat here; there are even welcome indications that the Government intends to make more of an issue of its plans to start confronting the task of Lords reform which the Wilson government failed to accomplish in the Sixties. Which is just as well; powerful interests in the peerage will fight this to the last trench. But if the Tories really throw themselves into an alliance with the bereditary peers, they will surely this time be on the wrong side of history. Suborn the Establishment by all means. Mobilise it. Even flatter it. Sometimes to govern is tn schmooze. Just don't be captured by it.



### Today Japan, tomorrow the world



RICHARD LLOYD **PARRY** THE FAR EAST MELTDOWN

It is the good fortune of most people, most of the time, that they never have to think about Japanese politics. Consider vourselves lucky. Of all the world's industrialised couner of doles as 1s First World country (as it has been described) cursed with a Third World political system. Japanese politicians have all the vices of their foreign counterparts with none of the redeeming colour: they are arrogant but faceless, self-important but humourless, impotent and complacent at the same time. Luckily, this doesn't often matter, since the country is effectively run by its bureaucrats (equally arrogant, but reasonably talented). But, sometimes, Japan's politics get the better of it, and the country's leaders are faced with a genuine and dramatic set of events upon which depend livelihoods all over the world.

This is one of those times. For the Japanese, the stakes

could hardly be higher; in the next few weeks or even days, the decisions made by the prime minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, and his government have the potential either to deliver Japan from half a decade of sluggishness and gloom or plunge it into its most serious economic crisis since the end of the war. But the consequences will be felt far beyond Tokyo, in the emerging markets of Asia, in the United States, Europe, and certainly in Britain.

For the past five months, a

financial contaginn has been spreading through south-east Asia and, in the last fortnight, it bas hit Japan. Beginning in Thailand, and passing successively through Malaysia, Indonesia and now, most cripplingly of all, South Korea, Asian currencies have lost their value. This makes imported Japanese goods, such as cars, for instance, more expensive in Bangkok, Jakarta and Scoul. tries, none is run by such a grue. Asian companies are also findpay back loans from Japanese hanks. The strain produced in Tokyo by this Asian meltdown has come after a five-year-long headache, caused by the collapse of the Eighties boom, what the Japanese refer to as the "bubble economy".

At home, the Japanese who 10 years ago were the world's most conspicuous consumers, have stopped spending; and now the stricken manufacturers have seen their markets in Asia suddenly dwindle too. Japanese banks were already burdened with bad debts and mortgages from the effects of negative equity at home; now their Asian creditors are defaulting as well. The result has been a series of drops in the Tokyo stock exchange; on Monday, one of Japan's big banks went down permanently under the weight of bad loans. Companies are laying people off and, as if things weren't complicated enough, the country is also in the middle of a painful course of deregulation. "Asia is collapsing," says Andrew Shipley of Schroder's in Tokyo. "In Japan we expect record high unemployment in the next set of figures. The situation is quite scary because it's a synchronised global slowdown."

Until now, Japan's pain has not been felt much abroad, and the changes have, to a degree, benefited foreign companies. Deregulation bas opened up previously closed markets the recent abolition of tariffs on whisky, for instance, allows Scotch to compete on equal terms with Japanese spirits. But unless Japan's leaders get their act together soon the rest of the world will know about it. "We shouldn't underestimate what a big problem this is," says of DKB International in Londnn. "The financial contagion is already apparent in Latin America, and it could spread to Europe." If it does, it will be felt here

as painfully as anywhere; of all its European competitors, Britain's fortunes are uniquely tied up with those of Japan. It is a measure of how importantly the relationship is regarded that, since the election, six Labour ministers have visited Japan (the latest, the Foreign Office minister, Derek Fatchett, left this week; John Prescott flies in at the weekend). Next year sees a year-long "British Festival" nf art, drama and science; British diplomats in Tokyo are cock-a-hoop about the visit to London next spring

of the Japanese Emperor and Empress. Officially, these events are all about building goodwill and promoting mutual understanding; the underlying reality is that they are the latest in a series of highly successful strategies designed to attract Japanese money. For diplomats and politi-

cians, it is a source of justifiable

pride that in the past 10 years against thugh competition from France and Germany some of the biggest names in Japan have set up shop in the UK, including Nissan and Toyota. Nearly half of all manufacturing investment in Europe is in Britain; no self-respecting bank or brokerage is without a London office (Britain is home to the third higgest Japanese community outside Japan). If Japan's downward spiral continues, and its investors are forced to repatriate their funds, these will be under threat.

Every year 650,000 Japanese

tourists visit Britain; last year mey spent £450m. Apart from earning less from their investments and feeling increasingly insecure about their jobs, those tnurists have much less tn spend: a pound, which was worth about 188 Yen over the summer, costs 217 Yen this week. British exports to Japan were worth £4.3bn last year, and have trehled over the past 10 years, even as imports have decreased; suddenly everything British is more expensive.

A Japanese meltdown

would affect you if work in a hntel or live in an area with hig Japanese investment (South Wales, Sunderland, Derbyshire). It will affect education - more than 60,000 Japanese students spend £350m in Britain annually. Japanese sponsorship has huilt galleries in the British museums, and extensions to Oxford colleges. There are few areas of cultural life in Britain (sport is perhaps the exception) which have not benefited from Japan's remarkable post-war prosperity.

Japan is a country where disasters, of a natural kind, are common, and even these provide a lesson. When the city of Kobe was devastated by a buge earthquake, the delayed shockwaves were felt in Britain as strongly as anywhere. The sudden dip in Japanese share prices which occurred as a consequence of the quake ruined the plans of a ynung British banker, Nick Leeson. His into recoup buge trading losses were scuttled once and for all: a month later his employer, Barings Bank, was ruined. The collapse of a few more Japanese banks, the further slide of the Nikkei share average, could make the Kobe earthquake look, in financial terms, like a minor wohble. Time, perhaps, to drink a strong cup of coffee. take a deep breath, and take a hard look at what is happening in Japan.

### A new European model for growth and employment



Bath 181 1125

**BROWN** ON THE JOBS SUMMIT

> Europe's 4.8 million young unemployed would be rightly unimpressed if today's Luxembourg jobs summit produced Only another photo-opportunity for presidents and prime

Which is why Britain, represented by Tony Blair, is determined that this summit must launch a new European way which can bring new opportunities not just to the young unemployed but to the 18 million people across the Continent

without jobs. Mass unemployment on this scale does not simply represent personal tragedies, but also a baige waste of economic talent. Europe cannot develop as long

social division that long-term unemplnyment brings.

Indeed with the introduction of the euro nnly 13 months away, Europe's 20 million unemployed have a right to insist that we find a more effective, more modern economic model that delivers employment opportunity for all. Monetary union cannut work successfully without actinn on jobs.

Today as the Luxembourg summit npens a new European way can offer new bope. The American economic model has brought job creation but it has brought ever widening inequalities and denied communities social cohesion. The nid European model has brought social cohesion but little jobs growth. The challenge for a new, more effective European model is to have job creation in a fair and cohesive society.

The new European model states that while sound finances are necessary so growth can expand, it is not sufficient if we are to meet our commitment to high and stable levels of growth and employment.

It states that achieving our objectives of high and stable levels of employment and growth requires new approaches for welfare and tax reform, for mvestment and competition, and

for tackling social exclusion.

as there is the alienation and Europe to modernise social security systems and welfare states. The old welfare model assumed that unemployment was merely a function of low demand, and that the unemployed could do nothing but wait for an upturn as passive recipients of benefit. Today unemployment is structural and technological as well as cyclical. skill shortages remain even when there is high unemployment and languishing on benefit is unfair when the out of work will invariably need new

In my view no young person should be left for months - and no long-term unemployed adult - withnut work training or work experience. So we need new employment and benefit policies. Just as we have made a start in Britain, drawing on the welfare to work programmes of other countries, so other countries are now ready to do likewise. For all of us there is more to be done. That is why Europe tomorrow will offer new guarantees to the young

and long-term unemployed. Job creation requires, secondly, a new approach to canployability. Today Europe is considering new targets for increasing training opportunities for the unemployed. Most of Britain's unemployed have the r tackling social exclusion.

Iowest skills, 75 per cent of courage people or businesses reforms to create new growth creating jobs. So Europe is and employment Indeed mon-

ployed for longest have no skills worth their name. The countries which succeed in mastering waves of technological change and fiercer competitive pressures will be the ones that invest in their one national resource, their penple.

The key to the new European agenda is thus rising investment in education and training. Even in the most training-conscious countries in Europe only a fractinn of today's workforce are upgrading their skills. Yet their skills are, all the time, becoming nbsolete. Britain has a great deal to learn from mainland European apprenticeship, craft and vocational training programmes. All of us have to do more in lifelong learning, not least by using the modern interactive technologies to make

For the unemployed taking starter or transitional jobs and a for the low paid, work must pay and that requires tax reforms that encourage rather than penalise work. In Britain we are considering a 10p rate to help the low paid and reform of both tax and benefit systems to back up our proposed minimum wage. In Europe this weekend other countries will signal their determination to change their tax systems where they dis-

agreed that taxes on income must be geared to making work pay and business taxes should be modernised to encourage investment, growth and inbs. Third, the European way to

creating jobs rejects both oldstyle regulation and crude deregulation; it favours a competitinn policy that creates more dynamic markets, is effective against those cartels and monopolies that hold new businesses and job creatinn hack, and - in large areas where European-wide competition is still inadequate - pushes forward the frontiers of the single market. In this way small- and medi-

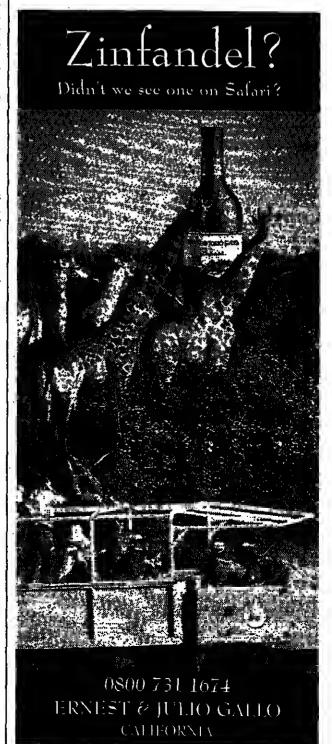
um-sized businesses are now recognised for the job creators they are and can be. The small business sector has produced most new jobs in the United States. The European way must now be to do what we can to encourage innovation and dynamism. Britain's venture capital market has been a significant creator of high quality jobs and companies. There is a new interest throughout Europe in examining how to enlist venture capital as a more effective route to job creation.

Our presidency will reflect this. So in each area the European model suggests supplyside measures and structural

etary union which requires greater flexibility cannot work in any other way. So the new way recognises that while, ma fast-moving world of constant innovation and technological change, there is far less that government can do to stop people losing their last jnb, there is a int government can do to help penple secure their next job.

This week's initiative by the Luxembourg presidency is an important step forward. Already the UK has submitted its own action plan, building on our "getting Europe to work" initiative of last June. It admits how much we have still to do and sets our own experience and action priorities. Our hope is that, by the Cardiff summit, each member state will have produced their own action plan. sharing their best practice on employment so that we can learn from each other.

The new European model rejects the crude free market dogma of the Tory years which does nothing to enhance employability, just as it rejects old-style regulation which suppressed markets and dynamism. Instead the European way combines dynamism with employment and educational opportunity for all. In this way, Britain can take a lead in ensuring that Europe is changing to meet the needs of the



joyce Wethered, gaifer; born Brook, Surrey I7 November 1901; married 1937 Major Sir John Heathcoat Amory Bt (died 1972); died 19

Joyce Wethered once remarked that her golfing style evolved from imitating others. Yet the result was so inimitable she drew praise from some of the greatest players in the game.

Bobby Jones said she was the most gifted player he had ever seen and Walter Hagen was similarly impressed: "As I watched her 1 thought there wasn't a male golfing star in the world whn wouldn't envy the strong, firm strokes she played," he said. "She hit her shots crisply, like a man expert, but without having any mannish mannerisms to detract from her charm as a gracinus young sportswoman,

She wan the British Amateur Championship in 1922, 1924, 1925 and 1929, the English Championship from 1920 to 24 and was playing captain of the Curtis Cup team against United States in 1932.

Wethered, whose father was a useful player with a handicap nf six, took up the game during family holidays at Bude, in Cornwall. She also played reg-. ularly at Dornoch, in Scotland, where the family had a house overlooking the course. Her brother Roger, a Walker Cup player from 1921 to 34, tied with Jock Hutchinsoo for the Open Championship in 1921 and then asked to be excused from the play-off because he had arranged to play cricket. He was persuaded to cumpete but was cumfortably beaten by Hutchinsoo. Wheo her brother won the Amateur Championship at Deal, in Kent, in 1923, Joyce, who had just been defeated in the semi-finals of the British at Burnham and Berrow, Somerset, drove through the night to see him play.

However, she denied suggestions that he had had a major influence on her career. She had only one formal lesson; but. recalled watching the champions of her day, Harry Vardon; J.H. Taylor and Bobby Jones. When Wethered entered

the English Women's Championship at Sheringham, in Norfolk, in 1920, the outstanding favourite was the holder, "Cecil" Leitch. "People either adored Leitch or they didn't," Wethered told Golf Monthly. "She was the big noise in women's golf when I came on the scene and what made her stand out was the fact that she had so dominant a personality, Perhaps because I had an ability to disappear in a cocoon of concentration, I was oevermesmerised by Cecii in the same extent as others."

At one point in their match, Wethered was six down in the final and responded with a succession of threes before winning on the 17th. The penultimate: hole runs alongside a railway line. and as she stood over the putt for the match, a train rattled past: Asked if it had disturbed her, Wethered replied: "What traint?"

Her most satisfying victory came in the 1929 British: Women's Championship over the Old Course at St Andrews, the home of the Royal and Ancient and the club that to this day, does not have women: members. Nevertheless, it was: the prospect of playing at ShAndrews that brought Wethered: out of retirement!

Io the final she was up against her old adversary Glenna Collett, the greatest anateur. in America. Collett, who was taught by a Scot, Alex Smith; wasfive up at the turn. Wethered: turned the tables in the afternoon, winning hole after hole.



Wethered in strikingmode an the 1925 British Women's Championship at Troom, which she won Photograph: Hulton Geory

35th: "We became the centre of: a squeezing, swaying and almost hysterical mob." Collett said. The Scots, moe as they are, reaily were pulling for her. The bobbies had to escort us to the clubhouse. I thought if I had. beaten Joyce that day I wouldn't be here to recall the tale."

After ber triumph -- it comcided with her family losing its fortune in the Wall Street crash. -Wethered forfeited her amatem status by working in the golf départment: at Fortnum and Mason. As a professional she. toured America in 1935, playing 52 matches against leading: players, including Bobby Jones and Gene Sarazen, and earning £4,000 in the process.

When she returned home she married Sir John Heathcoat Amory. Apart from playing. golf, they had a shared interest in the gardens surrounding his mansion, Knightshayes Court. and although Collect rallied, at: Tiverton, in Devon. The fostered several famous gar-

the end came at the 17th or the house, designed by William Burgess, was built by Heathcoat. Amnry's grandfather in the 1870s. When Sir Juhn died in 1972 it was handed over to the National Trust.

Watching the modern lady

professionals, the nnly thing Wethered envied them was their: casual clothes. She had had no choice but to play as if dressed. for a church outing rather than a day of sporting competition. As it was she blazed a trail in a man's world. "There were too many clubs where you had the feeling you were not wanted," she said. "Often women wouldn't be allowed in the clubhouse. I well remember, while. waiting for my male partners to emerge from the locker-room at Sandwich, I kept my hands warm on the radiator of someone's Rolls-Royce."

Devon's benign climate has Heathcoat Amory's favourite

dens, but Knightshayes is perhaps most exceptional of them all, writes Hugh Meller. It was nriginally laid out in the late-19th century when the house was built, but the present 30acre garden is largely the creation: of Joyce Heathcoat Amory and her husband.

From the 1950s until Sir John's death, the Amorys enlarged the garden by extending it into the neighbouring woods, thus pioneering the idea of gardening in woodland. Glades were formed and planted with rhododendrons, azaleas, ericas, meconopses, primulas and peonies among rarer plants imported from all over the world. Specimen trees like magnolia, hirch, soothern beech and maple were interspersed with indigenous specimens through which roses and clematis were encouraged to climb. At their base, Jovce:

cyclameo were allowed to

flourish, creating a magic affect in autumn. In a rare gesture of acknowledgement, the Royal Horticultural Society awarded the Victoria Medal of Honour to both Sir John and Lady Heathcoat Amnry.

When Knightshayes was given to the National Trust it was at first thought that noty the garden should be upen to visitors. However, as interest in Victorian houses was then on the increase, William Burgess's great house was also opened, despite misgivings; Knightshayes had out always been appreciated by the family and it had suffered as a result. The National Trust began a slow programme or resturation, which still continues and it is entirely to Jnyce Heathcoat Amory's credit that she not only encouraged the work, which included replacing features that she herself had previously removed, but she also assisted it through geocrous dunations.

### Ken Hoare

Kenneth Sidney Hoare, writer: born Torquey, Devou 38 March 1929; died London 16 November 1997.

From the 1960s onwards Ken Hoare wrote for the brilliant Glaswegian entertainer Stanley Baxter Time amony had a cutting edge," wrote Hoare, drawing blood and proving that imitation is not always the sincerest form of flattery."

His association with Baxter lasted more than 30 years, producing such programmes as Stanley Baxter's Big Picture Show, Stanley Baxter's Picture Annual, Stanley Bexter's Christmas Hamper, Stanley Baxter's Xmas Box and Stanley Baxaer's Christmas Special, which was shown last December. The Yuletide specials produced such joys as Banter's imitation of Noel Coward, singing Ken's oeat lyric: "Why can't we cancel Christmas?/ Why can't we pack it in?/ The kiddies all adore it and they make a joyful noise/They lie on the mat/ And neuter the cat./ With educational toys." In 1953, newly married and

living in a chilly house in Stroud Green, I spent a lot of time writing comedy scripts in the local public library, which was infinitely warmer. The librarian there was Ken Hoare, a shy, tikeable young man who had recently come to London from Torquay to pursue a writing career. One morning, knowing we shared an interest in film as well as in comedy, I told him about a very funny monologue I'd heard the previous night in a fringe-theatre revue; credited to "Kean Shore"; it was a speech delivered by the organiser of a suburban film society. Hoare revealed that he'd wraten it, and had anagrammatised "Ken S. Hoare" in case the piece failed to register. "At dress rehearsal", he added, "I wished I'd chosen a less obvious anagrand." Thus began a valued friendship that. was to last for 44 years.

"I broke into television in 1955", wrote Ken, "by picking the lock on the door of Associated-Rediffusion." Afterwriting comedy sketches for various variety programmes, he sold his first television play, The Outing (1956). One of the many scripts that followed was The Cage, broadcast in the late Fifties, a mystery thriller which became even more mysterious during its live transmission; realising the play was 15 minutes too long, the director ordered frenzied last minute cuts, rendering the story so incomprehensible that calls from baffled viewers nearly reduced the switchboard to meltdown. The following day. to its author's perverse amusement, the play was hailed by

one newspaper critic as "boldly innovative". In the early 1960s Hoare's agent introduced him to another of his clients, a radio writer named Mike Sharland, and the two decided to collaborate on television comedy. "We started by writing a pilnt show based on Ken's library experiences, "said Sharland, "but it never saw the light of day because we could never think of

a second episode as funny as the first." Although their next sitcom script was furned down by ITV, it found a home on BBC-TV's Comedy Playhouse, and became Beggar My Neighbour (1967), which, with Peter Jones, June Whitfield, Pat Coombs and Reg Varney in the castygan for four series.

the fire

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MCK MARKE

Yorkshire Television's Mr Digby, Darling (1969), which starred Peter Jones and Shoila Hancock, also notched up four series, and His and Hers (1971), with Ronald Lewis and She Lloyd, ran for three. Tumball's Finest Half Hour (1972), their no-holds-barred lampoon of television broadcasting, worried Yorkshire TV who, afraid it was too "in", kept ourying it in 6bscare time-slots. The show nonetheless developed a cult following (which included Alan. Bennett), and ran for two seasons. For his last 28 years, House's

companion was the actor Alan; Helm. They left London briefly: in the 1970s to run a small cinema in Suffolk, where Hoare also wrote in his spare time. Although an amusing collection of a stobiographical pieces failed to find a publisher, his book Stanley Baster on Screen was published in 1980. A stage play Glyn and It, which involved an imazinary encounter between Elmor Glyn, the author of the novel It and Clara Bow, the "It Girl", opened at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in Guildford in February 1994, before embarking on a nationwide tour with Penalope Keith as Glyn.

During his career, Hoare won six Writers' Guild and Press Guild awards and a BAFIA sward. Whenever comedy writers forgather to discuss favourite pieces of television comedy, someone in-



Hoare: no-holds-barred

evitably mentions Hoare's classic lampooo nf the crime shorts made for the cinema by the criminologist Edgar Lustgarteo in the 1950s, and relentlessly televised in the 1960s and beyond. Smodgily filmed on appropriately flimsy sets. Lustgarten (Stanley Baxter) recounts a case in which a number of people died from the same cause -- Deadly Boredom. After finally revealing that these deaths were caused by his own films, Lustgarten vows: Wheo the doors of Wormwood Scrubs open again, I shall be back to claim further victims with grainy film, pedestrian plots and sluggish direc-

- Dick Vosburgh

### Air Vice-Marshal Wilfrid Oulton

Wilfrid Ewart Oulton, air force officer: born Monks Coppenhall, Cheshire 27 July 1911; DSO 1943; DFC 1943; Director, Joint Anti-Submarine School 1946-48; Director, Joint Services Staff College 1948-50; Air Attache, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Asuncion 1950-53: CBE 1953: Director of Operations, Air Ministry 1954-55; Commander, Joint Task Force "Grapple" 1956-58; Senior Air Staff Officer, RAF Coastal Command, HQ 1958-60: Chairman, Medsales Executive Ltd 1982-97; married 1935 Sarah Davies (died 1990: three sons), 1991 Leticia Malcolm: died Lymington, Hampshire 31

There is a natural tendency. when the contribution of the Royal Air Force to overall vic-

tory in the Second World Warr lege at Cranwell; and thereafter: formances from others or from greater part than Onltoo him- this ensured eventual success bomber and fighter; and the exploits of their most famous fig. ures such as Leonard Cheshire: and Johnnie Johnston. But the really knowledgeable will concede, as did Churchill, that the most critical campaign of all was: that fought against the throttling grip of the German. U-boats fought and won by the Royal. Navy and Coastal Command of the RAE Of all the "close run" things, this was perhaps the closest, and among RAF pilots in: that campaign none was more. expert and eventually more. successful than Wilfred Oulton. Oulton's father had served:

as a scientist in the Royal Flying Corps in the First World War and he himself graduated with: Outtom: master of antidistinction from the RAF Col-submarine warfare

to the part played by the two Already he could be identified major operational commands, as a perfectionist, whatever role he undertook, mastering. both the practical and theoretical by total application. He and Willie Tait or Sailor Malan: never accepted inferior per-



is considered, to pay attention be specialised in air navigation. himself. In the years before the self, with a remarkable success and enhanced his reputation Second Warld War he developed this characteristic to the full and became ooe of the few acknowledged masters of the theory and practice of antisubmarine warfare. At that time what was too often lacking to Coastal Command was aircraft of the required range and performance and in the necessary numbers. Only in the nick of time was sufficient priority given to the needs of the com-

> to the maritime role. Among these aircraft were the Halifaxes of No 56 Squadron, of which Oultnn was given command in the spring of 1943, a period when the balance of success finally began to turn against the U-boat. Individually unbody played a

mand and agreement gradeingly.

granted to the diversion and

conversion of bomber aircraft

rate of three U-boats corrfirmed destroyed (one shared in May 1943). His hours of intensive training of his own crews and those in his squadron at last paid dividends and were. typical of his whole approach to joint nperations, operations which he was promoted to direct throughout Northern Ireland. In 1946 he was appointed RAF director of the Joint Anti-Submarine Schunl at Londonderry.

He was serving in the Air Ministry when he received his most demanding peacetime appointment, in 1956, to command Operation Grapple, the deployment of all the thousands of personnel and of logistic tonnage to exercise the first British hydrogen bomb in the remote Pacific, at Christmas Island, His meticulnus preparations for

once again. It therefore came as a surprise wheo he voluntarily retired in 1960 from his next appointment as Senior Air Staff Officer of Coastal Command. although he cootinued to play an active part on the industrial side of the Command's activities. In civilian life he remained

as active as an adviser and as-

much in demand as before, especially in the fields of navigatioo and electronics, in which he remained in the forefront of all development. In himself he remained remarkably fit both mentally and physically and played squash right into his eightics. He was twice married and of the three sons by his first marriage, two inined the Royal Air Force and one the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Christopher Foxley-Norris

### LAW REPORT: 21 NOVEMBER 1997

### Proceedings can be continued despite undertakings

The Secretary of State for-Trade and Industry was entitled to continue proceedings for the disonalification of a company director on the grounds of his unfitness to act'as a director, notwithstanding that the director had offered undertakings which would:

disqualification order. Secretary of State for Trade and Industry v Davies and others Court of Appeal (Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Millett and

practical effect as a

have substantially the same

Lord Justice Mummery) 19 November 1997 The Court of Appeal dismissed

the appeal of Vernon Daviesagainst the dismissal of his applications for a stay of proceedings against him under sections 6 and 8 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, and for leave to move for judicial review of the decision of the Secretary of

continue the proceedings and ering the reserved judgment of in the promotion, formation or scheme which did not provide

to refuse to consent to the stays... Following a report made by inspectors under section 437 of the Companies Act 1985 in respect of Atlantic Computers pic and Atlantic Computer Systems plc, companies of which the appellant was a director, the Secretary of State for Trade and ification proceedings against the appellant and others under section 8 of the Company Di- Secretary of State in the prorectors Disqualification Act 1986. Disqualification proceedings were also commenced: against the appellant and others under section 6 of the 1986 Act in respect of the Blackspur group of companies, which had gone into administrative. receivership, and of which the appellant was also a director. Michael Briggs OC and Paul Girolami (Peters & Peters) for the appellant, A.W.H. Charles, Mark Cumbridge and Richard Gillis (Treasury Splicis-

the court, said that the appellano had applied for a stay of both sets of disqualification proceedings oo the grounds that it would be oppressive to firm, prejudicial to the interests of the public, and a misuse of the procedure of the court for the Secretary of State to pur-Industry commenced disqual- sue them in the face of undertakings offered by him.

The evidence served by the ceedings cootained allegations of serious misconduct, including dishonesty, which the appellant stroogly disputed. He contended that the proceedings would impose a "prodigious burden" no him, estimating that his cost of defending them: would be in the region of £909,000.

The undertakings, which were of permaneot duration. it was true that the object of the included undertakings not to act:as a company director, liquidator, administrator, receiver or manager, nor in any way was embodied in a carefully to be concerned or to take part structured, detailed statutory

management of a company, and an undertaking never to apply to vary or be discharged from any of the earlier under-It had not, however, been

unfair, oppressive or a misuse of the process of the court to institute the proceedings against the appellant, as it had appeared to the Secretary of State at the time to be expedient in the public interest to do so, and, notwithstanding the undertakings offered by the appellant, it appeared to Secretary of State at the present time to be expedient in the public interest to continue the proceedings.

That was because the underrakings, offered without an admission of the facts, were not equivalent to a disqualification order made by the court. Whilst 1986 Act was the protection of the public, the means by which that object was to be achieved

for the disposal of the pro-ceedings on the basis of non-admissions undertakings.

tion. Goodnight."

On the cootrary, the regulatory scheme operated by the Secretary of State and adjudicated upon by the court pres; supposed the making of an order on a factual basis, sufficient tn justify the judicial finding that the respondent? was unfit to be the director of a company. The factual basis for making disqualification orders, predicated on findings or admissions of unfitness, had a real deterrent effect, and afforded protection to the public against the menace of persons unfit to enjoy the privdeges of limited liability.

In those circumstances the Secretary of State was entitled to take the position that it anpeared to her to be expedient, in the public interest to prosecute the proceedings against the appellant, and the appeals would be dismissed.

- Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

### BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

#### BIRTHS

LENCH: To Jane (nee Heyworth) and Nick, on 10 November 1997, an-other beautiful dangmer, Elizabeth Hannah Clare, a sister for Caroline.

#### IN MEMORIAM ROGER: Alan Stuart. A memorial

vice will be held on Monday I De-cember at 12 noon at St Columba's Church of Scotland, Pont Street, For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES &

DEATHS, ploase telephone 0171-293: 2012 or fax to 0171-293 2010. Charges are C6.50 a fine (VAT extra).

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Princess Royal, President, Serve the Children Fund, visits their shop at Bird Street, Licheled, Staffortshirler as Patron. The Batter Brust, visits 18M Prison Brinsford, Welverhauston, Staffortshirler as Patron. College of Occupational Therapiess, while the Occupational Therapy Department, Budmall Horphia, Stofton-Items and occupational Therapy Department, Budmall Horphia, Stofton-Items and occupational Therapy Department, Budmall Horphia, Stofton-Items and occupational Therapy Department, Prevision at Smilfordshire County Storreground. Stafford, Princess Margaret. President, The Outde Association, unext members of the Durhum North Guide Association at Dryden Professional Development Centre, Genetical Type in Order, and as Colonel-to-Chief. The Light Dragouts, streads a reception for the Old Committee of the Light Dragouts (Iometry Light) The Sociation of the Light Dragouts (Iometry Light) The Sociation of the Light Dragouts (Iometry Light) The Depart Colonel-to-Chief. The Light Office, Depart Colonel-to-Chief. Royal Socia Dragobia Counted (Carabiniters and Greys), presents Dular of Kent Medals at the Cavalry and Guards Chief. ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Charaging of the Guard

The Horschold Cavalry Mointed Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham; F Company Sone Guards stooms to Queen's Guard at Muchingham Palace, 11.30am, lead provided by the Scots Guards.

### Birthdays:

Mr Coningsby Alklay, former chair-man, British Nuclear Fuels, 77; Miss Beryl Beinbridge, writer and actress 63: Mrs Georgina Batriscounte, writer, 92: Mr Roy Boulting, film producer, 84: Miss Tina Brown, editor, the New Yorker, 44; Mr.Jeremy Bidl. more, director, the Guardian Media... Group, 68: Miss Amelia Freedman. ... Founder and Artistic Director, Nash: Ensemble, 57, Mr Nickolas Grace, bot", 1pm actor, 50; Dr Michael Grant, Greek: and Roman historian, 83; Miss Goldie Hawn, actress, 52; Mr Juha Horder, poet and journalist, 61; Sir. Stanley Kalms, founder and thairman Dixona Group, 66: M Jacqua Laffite, Grand Prix driver, 54; Miss Natalie Makarova, ballerina, 57; Mrl: Tun Robinson, cricketer, 39; Mr.: Lord Mayor of West Peter Sharpe, chief constablet for: The Lord Mayor of West Hertfordshire, 53; Mr. Madothan Ronald Raymond O Williamson, composer and Master of the Queen's Music, 66:

#### Anniversaries

Births: Voltaire (François-Marie) Arouet), philosopher and writer, 1694; Harpo Marz, comedian, 1888; René-François Ghislain Magritte. surrealist : painter, 1898c Deaths:s Henry Purcell, composer, 1695; Dominic Betan Wyndham Lewis, writer, 1969. On this day: the Montgolfier brothets made the first hot air hal-loon flight. 1783; a Bill making women eligible as MPs received Royal Assent, 1918; construction work began on the Forth Read. Bridge, 1958, following IRA bomb begins in London at 3.49pm.

Bridge, 1958, following IRA bomb begins in London at 3.49pm.

United Sympogram, 0484346 2255

Cartion of Sympogram, 048436 2255 explosions in Bizmingham; 217900.

ple were killed and 210 injured, 1974; union of Springagene, 0101022, 222

proceedings in partiament services of Going Bizmin and Progressive Springages of Going Bizmin and Bizmi ised for the first time, 1989. Today; is the Feast Day of Stralbert of Louvain and St Gelasius I, pope.

### L'ectures:

National Gallery: Erika Langmuir, "Pocket Guides (iii): Allegory. Correggio, The School of Lave". 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum Risemany Crill, "Colours of the Indus: Pakistan cosmme and textiles of the Panjah and North West Frontier Province", 2.30pm: Tite Gallerys Colin Cruise, Sime on Solomon: sex, religion and sym-

nt Cöllège, Barnard's Inn Grestiam Collège, Barnard's Inn Hall, London ECI: Professor Joanna MacGregor and Professor Srephen Prant, The Tradition of

#### Receptions

The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Mr Ronald Raymond-Cox, the Lady Mayoress, Mrs Raymond-Cox, the Lord Mayor of London, Mr Richard Nichols, and the Lady Mayoress, Mrs Nichols, hosted a reception yester-day at Westminster City Hall, London SW1, on the occasion of the Gölden Wedding Anniversary of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, for complex from the Cities of London and Westminster who cele-brate their Golden Wedding Anersary this year.

#### Synagogue services.

Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 3.49pm.

tor) for the Secretary of State. State for Trade and Industry to Lord Justice Mummery, deliv-

### مكذا من الاعل

# 23/BUSINESS

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR, JEREMY WARNER NEWS DESK: 0171-293 2636 FAX: 0171-293 2098 E-MAIL: INDYBUSINESS@ INDEPENDENT.CO.UK FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

# Economy shows the first signs of cooling down

EA batch of new figures yesterday brought the first hints that the gverheated economy might be cooling down. Diane Coyle,

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Economics Editor, asks whether this means the Bank of England has really broken the cycle of boom and bust.

Early signs that the economy has come off The boil encouraged hopes that the five rises in interest rates since 1 May have engi-2 neered a "soft landing".

However, there were enough mixed 'signals in yesterday's figures to keep the experts divided about how much further rates might yet have to climb. Some economists reckon the Bank of England will have to do more to ensure the necessary slowdown.

The Office for National Statistics reported a lower figure for gross domestic product growth last quarter than the initial estimate, down to 0.9 per cent from 11 per cent. Separate figures from the Bank of England showed that broad money growth slowed last month.

In addition the latest survey showed a 'drop in consumer confidence from its mid-"summer high. And the Confederation of British Industry said business optimism had weakened sharply.

Robert Barrie, an economist at BZW. said. "The Bank has been running a tough policy, and I sense that the economy is on the num."

But other City analysts found evidence to the contrary beneath the headline figures. Michael Dicks of investment bank Lehman Brothers said: "This Christmas could turn out to break the record books. People would have to stop spending abruptly in the New Year for the Bank of England to avoid raising interest rates."

Ciarán Barr of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell agreed. "There is no indication that the economy is about to start slowing," he said. The revised estimate showed the growth rate edging down from 1 per cent in the second quarter of this year to 0.9 per cent in the third. Consumer spending growth hit 3.8 per cent year-on-year - the fastest since

1988 -- but its quarterly rise tailed off slightly to 1.2 per cent due to the impact of the royal funeral on retail sales.

Investment dived by 1.2 per cent in the quarter, following a boost due to aircraft purchases in the previous quarter. It remained 3.8 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The figures for GDP in the fourth quarter, due in January, are likely to be crucial to the Bank of England's decisions. An interest rate increase before early February would now come as a surprise to the financial markets.

The CBI's survey supported the evidence of weaker growth. Export orders are still falling, according to its members, although the sharp deterioration has been halted.

Manufacturers' expectations for future output dived to their lowest for two years. The balance of companies expecting to increase rather than reduce production in the next four months fell to 9 per cent from 20 per cent.

Sudhir Junankar, a CBI economist, said: "The weakness on the export front now appears to he leading manufacturers to scale down their hopes of output growth." He predicted one more increase in interest rates to a peak of 7.5 per cent.

A separate survey of consumers by pollsters GfK showed a big drop in confidence from its post-election record highs, although it remains well above the long-run average. The optimism balance reached a peak of 10 per cent in August, had declined to 7 per cent by September and reached 2 per cent this month.

Even M4, whose rapid growth has been one of the Bank of England's bugbears, decelerated. The hig repayment of public debt by the government and "repo" transactions by the banks took its growth rate from 11.8 per cent in September to 10.9 per cent.

Separate figures from the high street banks and building societies showed a modest pick-up in new mortgage lending during the month, and a bounce back in credit card lending after a depressed September.

Net lending by the building societies rose from £928m to £953m, and by the banks from £606m to £817m in October, Other bank lending was weaker.

Outlook, page 25



Going his own way: Robert Hanson with a former acquaintance, Normandy Keith

Robert Hanson, son of Lord Hanson, yesterday said be would leave the company that bears his father's name at the end of next month.

Hanson junior has followed in his father's footsteps by appearing regularly in the society columns with young ladies on his arm. Once thought by analysis to be the beir to his father's business empire, Robert Hanson appears to be distancing himself from It by this move.

### Hanson scion steps out of father's footsteps

terials company that remained empire reached its peak durafter the break-up of the amous tobacco to coal mining but split up after conglomerconglomerate was completed ates went out of fashion. Its ing, smaller Hanson subse- dex for a year, and investors quently fell out of the leading saw it as unwieldy and unable

Hanson is the building ma- FTSE 100 index. The Hanson ing the Thatcher boom years earlier this year. The remain- shares lagged the FTSE 100 in-

to add value following the recession of the early 1990s.

Robert Hanson is corporate development director of Hanson, and his principal remaining responsibility is to find a huyer for Grove Worldwide, the company's US-based cranemaking unit, which analysts value between £300m and £400m.

The company declined to comment on whether a sale was imminent.

Hanson shares rose half a penny to 285.5p.

and the time has now come for a full

Mr Bridgeman said he hoped

the inquiry would answer a wide

range of questions about the under-

writing process. He wanted to know

whether there was more scope for

competition between underwriters,

whether an underwritten issue pro-

vided the best value for money or

### **PowerGen** deal could mean end for RJB

The shadow hanging over RJB Mining darkened yesterday after PowerGen said it would take just 2 to 3 million tonnes of coal from it next year and then only if the price was cut by a further 15 per cent. Michael Horrison examines the prospects for Britain's biggest coal producer.

The deal PowerGen is negotiating could put three large collieries at risk of closure and see the tonnages it huys from RJB falling by two-thirds from next April. PowerGen is buying about 9 million tonnes this year from RJB under the existing five-year contracts.

Ed Wallis, PowerGen's chairman, said that it had already contracted to buy more than half its coal requirements for next year from UK and foreign producers at internationally competitive prices.

"We are not being awkward or difficult." said Mr Wallis. "We believe we have established a market price. Why should we buy at prices which are 15 per cent higher?"

Mr Wallis added that it did not have to buy any English coal. "It is as simple as that." But if Richard Budge, RJB's chief executive wanted to do a deal with Power-Gen it knew the volumes it wanted and the prices it was prepared to pay.

RJB has concluded deals for next year with the other two generarors, National Power and Eastern, at prices of around £1.18 a gigajoule compared with world prices of nearer £1. Under the present contracts the price is about £1.45 a gigajoule.

PowerGen also said it planned to contime switching to gas-fired plant as it mothballs ageing eoal-fired capacity. Deryk King, its chief executive, said that gas-fired plant could soon account for 40 per cent of its total UK electricity output.

Charles Kernot of Paribas Capital Markets said the outlook did not look good for RJB. "It is not looking very bright. 1998 is going to be a tough year. International coal prices are collapsing because they are largely set in the Pacific Rim and we are also seeing new mines coming on stream in Indonesia which is having a further neg-

ative effect on prices." Mr Wallis also repeated his call on the Government to be allowed to buy a regional electricity company. PowerGen may be ready to move quickly if the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report into PacifiCorp's hid for Energy Group gives the green light to further vertical integration in the industry. The report is due to be delivered to the President of the Board of

Trade Margaret Beckett today. The energy market, he said, should be treated like banking or supermarkets where a handful of large players provided competition. There were a growing number of integrated energy companies now operating including Scottish Power, Energy Group, Scottish Hydro, Centrica and Entergy, the US utility which bought London Electricity and is expanding into gas-fired generation.

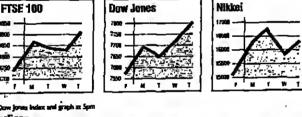
"We believe the industry should be allowed to evolve freely and that generators like us should be allowed to expand into distribution and supply. Only then will you see real competition .:

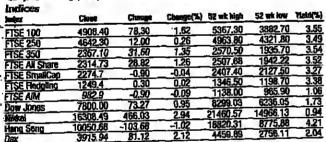
Seeboard and Sweh. now owned by US utilities, are both thought to be on the market.

PowerGen's pre-tax profits for the first half of the year fell from £207m to £154m as its market slipped below 20 per cent for the first time owing to increased competition and plant disposals. Stripping out exceptional items, however, profits were 12 per cent up while earnings per share climbed 17 per cent.

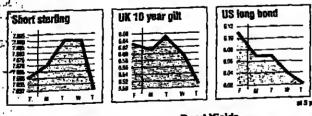
Outlook and Fuel Inquiry, page 25

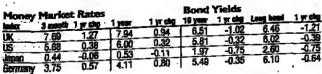
#### STOCK MARKETS



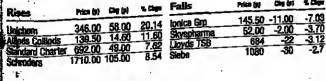


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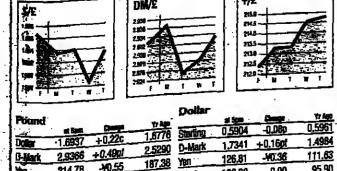




### MAIN PRICE CHANGES



#### CURRENCIES



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### OFT refers rights issue underwriting to MMC

The Office of Fair Trading dealt the City a severe blow yesterday after it referred the underwriting of rights issues to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Tom Stevenson, Financial Editor, reports on the latest move in a long-running battle between the OFT and the investing institutions.

John Bridgeman carried on where his predecessor as Director-general of Fair Trading, Sir Bryan Carsberg, left off yesterday, acting on a longstanding threat to refer the fixed-cost underwriting of cash calls to the MMC. The Monopolies Commission has a year in which to decide whether the City is responsible for a complex monopoly that unnecessarily increases the cost for companies of

raising money from the stock market. The decision comes as a disappointment to the City's investment hanks, which have made a concerted effort in recent months to devise schemes that would reduce the cost of underwriting and so fend off a costly and time-consuming inquiry. The terms of the referral made clear that Mr Bridgeman considered the City

had come up with too little too late. Traditionally the cost to a company of raising money on the stock market has been a fixed 2 per cent of the funds raised, but last month Schroders slashed the cost of raising money for househuilder Berkeley to half as much. Other banks have followed suit.

At issue is the traditional practice of offering institutions 1.25 per cent of the value of a rights issue in exchange for a promise to buy the shares on offer even if the market price falls sharply and no-one else is interested in taking up their rights.

In the Schroders-devised Berkeley issue, investors were instead asked to say how much they would accept in exchange for taking on the risk. The uncertainty was also lowered by offering new shares at a substantial discount to the prevailing market price. Institutions took a lower reward because the chance of the share price falling below the rights issue price was much slimmer.

Mr Bridgeman said: "This market has had several warnings that a failure to introduce greater competition and flexibility would result in an MMC investigation. But, after studying the terms and conditions of 60 rights issues since October 1996, my conclusion is that these innovations

have not gone far enough." He conceded that the City had introduced some new schemes and welcomed initiatives by the Association of British Insurers and the National Association of Pension Funds, the umbrella bodies for the big institutional investors that stand accused of profiting excessively from the mo-

nopoly they hold over underwriting. Although cheaper innovations have been introduced in several rights issues, Mr Bridgeman said he was concerned that the majority of cash calls still used the traditional underwriting method.

He said: "I remain concerned that competition is not working effectively in this market. Standard fees have been charged for underwriting in at least 50 per cent of recent rights issues. In spite of some tendering for sub-underwriting, the fees charged allowed sub-underwriters to make substantial profits over and above what might he regarded as reasonable. The industry has had long enough to behave more competitively

#### whether issuers should opt for other methods such as the American system where banks take on the whole risk of an issue but often charge much more for doing so.

MMC inquiry."

The inquiry will go to the heart of the institutions' passionately held preemption rights, which ensure that the owners of a business are given first call in any subsequent cash raising exercise. They fear that other methods. such as American style placings of stock, could lead to a dilution of their

> Mr Bridgemao said he also wanted the MMC to investigate whether companies were receiving impartial advice regarding their cash raising efforts and whether there was enough competition between brokers in relation to underwriting.

> control over the companies they

### Racal joins race to beat traffic jams with a satellite car-tracking device

A new car tracking device designed to help drivers beat traffic jams and find their way home was launched yesterday. Andrew Yates reports that it could turn out to be a money spinner for Racal and European Telecom, the two companies responsible for the system.

Called Orchid, the tracking device pinpoints the location of a car anywhere in Britain to ac- fone, the UK's largest mobile curacy of just 5 metres using an extensive satellite system. Drivers can phone a control centre, using a specially installed on-hands It costs between £699-£899 plus car phone system to find out a £150 installation fee. At that

a route home to avoid traffic spari ups. Users can even find out where the nearest hotel is or call for help if they breakdown.

The new system also promises to cut the number of car thefts in Britain, where there are more else in Europe. Global Telematics (GT), a

joint venture between Racal and European Telecom that invented Orchid, have teamed up with the Automobile Association (AA) to provide motorists with advice around the clock. GT has also enlisted the help of Vodaphone operator, to provide it with a telephone network.

Orchid does not come cheap.

their exact location and pick out price it looks out of the reach of the average motorist. Instead GT is targeting com-

panies that need to keep a constant eye on car fleets. Car hire groups are also likely to be interested in the new technology. These companies can put the sysvehicles stolen than anywhere tem on their own computer and monitor the position of their cars.

However, GT hopes Orchid will eventually capture the imagination of the public. It has forged a deal with Carphone Warehouse, which will sell the product throughout its chain from next year. GT also plans to market Orchid to the AA's 9.3 million members.

Edward Belegeonne, GT's managing director, said yesterday. "There are other products on the market doing some of the things Orchid can do but this pulls to-

gether all the pieces of the jigsaw. Unlike other systems there are no screens to distract drivers."

GT predicts that Orchid will break even within 18 months and produce revenues of £50m by the turn on the century. At the moment the new sys-

tem is only available in Britain and South Africa although GT plans to expand the product throughout Europe within the next few years. Eventually it hopes to produce a world-wide

Mr Belegeonne said GT was in talks with car manufacturers about installing the system as standard in their ranges.

The joint venture partners have put £1.5m into marketing Orchid and Racal has spent more than £50m developing the

#### **NEW INVESTMENT RATES** Effective from 21 November 1997 ANNUAL RATES GROSS%p.a. NET%p.a.

SCARBOROUGH 30 £100 - £250,000	7.20	5.76
SCARBOROUGH 30 BY POS £100 - £250,000	7.20	5.76
MONTHLY RATES	GROSS"ap.a.	NETttop.a.
SCARBOROUGH 30 £100 - £250,000	6.97	5.58
9CARBOROUGH 30 BY POS £100 - £250 000	6.97	5 58

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01723.500616 O I / 2 3 3 U U O I O
The interest rates on all other accounts are unchanged. All rates are variable. Please note that gross monthly rates do not compound to the full annual rates shown, interest is payable gross to non-tarquivers, subject to the required certification by all account holders, otherwise income tax will be deducted at the appropriate rate Non-taspayers may be able to teclaim this tax from the Inland Revenue. Net rates are illustrative only lassumes a rate of income tax of 20% in The Society will continue to forward marketing material to you unless you have specifically acquested otherwise. This notice is given under terms, conditions and rules of the Society. Member of the Building Societies Association.

### Korea could need \$100bn rescue as currency dives

Can things get worse in Korea's financial markets or will the International Monetary Fund be asked to come to the rescue? This was the question being asked by investors yesterday, reports Stephen Vines in Hong Kong.

If Korea has to swallow its pride and go to the IMF for help, the world's eleventh largest economy will need the kind of assistance which makes past hail-outs look modest. Japanese analysts are saying that Korea could need up to \$100bn (£59bn). If this is correct it would be by far the higgest IMF rescue, overshadowing the Mexican hail-out, and putting the recent help to Indonesia and Thailand very much in the shade.

Officially the Koreans are still insisting that they have no need to go to the IMF and are expecting direct bilateral assistance from Japan and the US or from a combination of neighbouring countries. There is also some vague hope that the Japanese government will

persuade banks to roll over short term loans. However, both the Japanese and the Americans have indicated that they would prefer to contribute to an IMF package carrying stiff terms for repayment and implementation.

The Centre for Asian Studies at the Japan Research Institute yesterday estimated that Korea would need between \$50bn and \$100bn to get out of the present financial crisis. It pointed out that South Korea has an external debt of \$110bn, \$20bn to \$30bn of which needs to be repaid before the yearend. In addition the government is being pressed to rescue a large number of financial institutions which are about to become engulfed in a sea of bad

Officially Korea is supposed to have \$30.5bn in foreign reserves but many analysts believe that half this sum has been spent in an effort by the Bank of Korea to prop up the

On Wednesday Korea's new finance minister, Lim Changyuel, announced what was billed as a far reaching financial reform package, and yesterday investors delivered their verdict. Within 15 minutes of Seoul's foreign exchange mar-



Photograph: Reuter

ket opening the Korean won fell by 10 per cent against the US dollar, taking it to a record low of 1.139 to the greenback. The value of the won has plunged 16 per cent this week.

Part of Wednesday's reform package was an extension of the band on currency trading allowing daily fluctuations of up to 10 per cent as opposed to the previous limit of 2.25 per-

Practically no one believes that the won's fall has been completed. The most pessimistic analysts are predicting that it will slump to 1,400 against the dollar, the most optimistic assessment is that it will stabilise around 1,200.

Share prices in Seoul, which managed a weak rally on Wednesday following Mr Lim's appointment, found the effort of optimism to be too taxing and the market fell back by almost 3 per cent yesterday.

While the financial markets are taking a battering, the Korean economy has continued to grow with vigour. Bank of Korea figures released yesterday show that gross domestic product for the third quarter was up 6.3 per cent. Mr Lim, the finance minister, says

6 per cent growth for the year cent, compared with a 9.3 per as a whole. This compares with 7.1 per cent growth last

Exports are busy stoking the economic machine. In the third quarter exports registered an impressive 29 per cent growth year-on-year. This compares with just 8.2 per cent in the equivalent period last year.

Although the good economic figures should have produced optimism, a strong indication of the consequences of the financial weakness was provided by the capital investment data, which showed that the economy is on course for investments had declined 13 per 1973.

cent growth in the previous 12

The weakness of the won provides a prop to exporters but the financial crisis is generating ever-rising interest rates which are acting as a formidable drag on corporate profitability.

While Korea remained a leading contender in the gloom stakes, Malaysia offered strong competition yesterday with the stock market plummeting by I I per cent in a single day and the local currency slumping to its lowest rate of exchange since

The lethal mix of economics and politics is behind the gloom in Malaysia which has

share values in the past week. First came news of what looked like a political motivated bail-out of a company controlled by the ruling party. Then yesterday, a leading company pulled out of the nation's leading hydro-electric project. leaving the govern-

ment to pick up the pieces. These developments are giving investors a feeling that the already weak stock market is developing into a political

### Worries over UK banks' exposure

There were growing concerns vesterday about the exposure of British banks to South Korea and other Asian countries. Bank of England figures show that at the end of June British banks had outstanding loans of \$6.6bn (£4bn) in Sonth Korea and \$13.4bn in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. Altogether Asia accounts for around 3 per cent of British banks' assets.

Ian Linnell, a director of the ratings agency IBCA, said: "It would be surprising if the turmoil did not have some impact on British banks, although it is not yet enough to cause serious concern. We are watching things very carefully."

Most banks, after their experience with lending to Latin America in the 1980s, have withdrawn from the emerging markets. "The UK clearing hanks have pulled in their horns in international lending," said Mr Linnell. seen 20 per cent knocked off

Their exposure is mainly through investment banking. activities, with banks such as Schroders, Flemings, Standard Chartered and HSBC most involved in Asia.

Amoogst the overseas banks most exposed are Chase in the US, which last week announced losses of \$160m due to turbulence in emerging markets, and the Dutch giant ING, which took over Barings after its collapse.

Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund was on red alert over the South Korean crisis yesterday. Although it would not comment on the country's situation, a spokesman said an exchange of information with the Korean authorities was continuing. An IMF official was on his way to Seoul.

But Lim Chang-yuel, the country's new finance and economics director, said South-Korea would seek regional. assistance before asking the IMF to hall it out. He placed his hopes on the Bank of Japan.

"If South Korea fails to pay the short-term loans, Japanese creditors may have to face defaults on long-term loans too."

The IMF has already put up - Dinne Coyle

### Japanese market rallies after another U-turn on bailing out banks

Markets in Tokyo continued their game of Call My Bluff with a dithering government yesterday. Share prices rose sharply after the Prime Minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, was forced to promise he would after all use public money to bail out collapsing banks. Richard Lloyd Parry reports from Tokyo.

It was Mr Hashimoto's third change of mind in three days, hut it was enough to spark a

rally of 466 points or nearly 3 per cent on the Nikkei average of 225 leading shares, which closed at 16,308. It reinforced the exteot to which the Japanese government is effectively a hostage of the markets, which have fluctuated wildly since the demise of Japan's 10th higgest bank. Hokkaido Takushoku, on Monday.

Several other hanks are believed to be close to insolvency, a result of bad loans left over from the boom days of the country's bubble economy, with problems brought to a head by plunging credit ratings for Japanese financial institutions on the world markets. The mar-

kets and business are looking for a clear signal from Mr Hashimoto that public money will be made available to cushion the effects of any further collapses. On Mooday and Tuesday,

when it appeared that they would, the Nikkei showed its appreciation with a two-day rise of more than 10 per cent. Oo Wednesday, Mr Hashimoto said that he had been misinterpreted; the markets thrashed him with 5 per cent fall. Yesterday, spokesmen for the Prime Minister let it be known that he had changed his mind, and he was duly rewarded with

a 3 per cent pat on the head. The financial crisis in Japan

comes at a critical time, coinciding as it does with worldwide market uncertainty, acute anxieties among Japanese banks. and a moment of political vulnerability for Mr Hashimoto.

Many of Japan's banks release their results this week, and their halance sheets have fuelled speculation about the victims most likely to follow Hokkaido Takushoku. The shares of most major banks, including Sumitomo and Tokyo-Mitsubishi, rose yesterday, hut smaller institutions continued to look vulnerable. Among the most actively traded stocks were Ashikaga, a regional bank. which fell 7 points to 140 after

a sharp decline the day before. Fuji Bank, a hig player which yesterday fell 44 points to 769, is under especially intense pressure, having committed itself to supporting the floundering brokerage, Yamaichi Securities.

Mr Hashimoto's change of position yesterday was couched in the most deniable terms possible, leaving room for yet another about turn should political conditions render it nec-

Credit - or blame - for the idea has been carefully placed with Kiichi Miyazawa, a former prime minister, who met Mr Hashimoto yesterday morning. Aides later conveyed the oews to journalists indirectly. The issue is an agonising one for the government, which faces

political turmoil and accusations of betraval whatever it chooses. On the one hand, Mr Hashimoto is committed to reform and modernisation of the economy and the creation of an environment where inefficient institutions will not be protected from competition by an endlessly indulgent government.

On top of this, with a mountainous deficit, there is no ready cash to give away. When the government spent hillions of yen of taxpayers' money early last year hailing out a group of bankrupt housing loan companies, there continue to slide.

uproar in parliament. But a failure to inject pub-

were street demonstrations and

lie money raises the prospect of a continuing stock market slide, geocrating in its turn more bankruptcies. The markets and husiness have made it clear that they want

government money to help the banks get rid of their con-performing loans and, ideally, tax If Mr Hashimoto grants these, he will provoke the fury of ordinary taxpayers, and seriously undermine his credentials as a committed reformer. If he doesn't, then the markets will A consequency

\$10bn for Indonesia and \$4bn for Thailand. Along with other contributions, the South-east Asian rescue package already amounts to more than \$40bn.

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#### Turbulence in the Far East takes its toll on Jardine Fleming profits

Flemings, one of the UK's few remaining independent investment banks, yesterday ad-Far East had cost it millions of

pounds. But the hank, which is shares still belong to the Flem-

ings family - remains com- bank's Hong Kong-based joint mitted to its independence. venture. Profits in the six We like being independent mitted that turbulence in the and private", said William Gar-

rett, chief executive. "Difficult market conditions" caused a 40 per cent fall privately owned - one third of in first half profits at the beleaguered Jardine Fleming, the

months to September at Jardine Fleming were £15m, some £10m down on last year. But despite a cautious Asian outlook in the short to medium term, Mr Garrett took an optimistic longer term view. "Asia is a

great part of the world in which to invest in the long term." The chief executive added

that Flemings had no intention of scaling down its Asian operations. "We are more likely to be adding resources in some of the areas."

Outside Asia, the picture

was brighter. Asset management "recorded a significant increase in profits", and traditional hanking had a "record half". Overall, profits rose by 6 per cent to £91m, and. the interim dividend edged up 0.5p to 8.5p.

- Len Paterson

### IN BRIEF

#### Unichem in merger deal

UniChem, the pharmaceuticals distributor chaired by former Chancellor of the Exchequer, Kenneth Clarke, is to merge with Alliance Sante in a deal worth £278m. The new company, Alliance UniChem, will he one of the leading healthcare companies in Europe. Alliance Sante has significant market positions in both France and Italy. The deal ends UniChem's search for a partner which hegan when it lost the battle for control for Lloyds Chemists to Gehe of Germany earlier this year. The enlarged group will have combined sales of almost £5bn and profits before re-structuring costs of £102m.

#### Storehouse ousts MD

Storehouse, the retail group, has replaced Simon Hughes as managing director of Mothercare, saying new skills were needed for its next phase of growth. Mr Hughes, who was not on the main board, will leave the company with immediate effect after 12 years with the group. Succeeding him is Greg Tuffnell who has had spells with Burton and Next. He was most recently head of Burton Menswear. Investment column, page 27

### ICI to sell fertiliser arm

ICI is to sell its UK-based fertiliser business to Terra Industries of the US for £200m though a deferred market related payment could see ICI receive a further £50m. After contractual obligations, the disposal is expected to give rise to a pre-tax exceptional gain before provisions of about £140m. In 1996 the husiness recorded sales of £220m and and a trading profit of £60m. The sales proceeds, which will be paid in cash, will be used to reduce ICI's borrowings.

This formal notice is issued in compliance with the requirements of, and has been approved by, the London Stock Exchange Limited (the "London Stock Exchange"). This formal notice should be read in conjunction with the prospectus dated 20 November, 1997 (the "Prospectus") which alone contains full details of Jersey Phoenix Trust Limited (the "Company"), the issue of New Ordinary Shares and New Zero Dividend Preference Shares and the related proposals.

tt million New Ordinary Shares are to be issued and the number of New Zero Dividend Preference Shares to be issued will be based on the net asset value of the Company as set out in the Prospectus. Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for the New Ordinary Shares and the New Zero Dividend Preference Shares to be admitted to the Official List.

Words and expressions detailed in the Prospectus have the same meaning in this formal notice.



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Copies of the Prospectus are available free of charge (for collection only during normal business hours) from the Company Announcements Office, London Stock Exchange, Old Broad Street, London EC2N tFP on the two business days following the date of publication of the Prospectus and may also be obtained during normal business hours for collection until 8 December, 1997 from:

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Hoare Govett Corporate Finance Limited 4 Broadgate London EC2M 7LE

Stephenson Harwood One St. Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8SH

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**OUTLOOK** ON THE MMC REFERRAL OF UNDERWRITING COMMISSIONS. THE CRISIS IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA. AND ED WALLIS'S **POWER GAMES** 

# Have-a-go Bridgeman takes on the City

On any reasoned assessment, it is hard to 2 per cent of proceeds when they come challenge John Bridgeman's decision to refer Britain's unique system of underwriting rights issues to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. There is compelling evideoce that the use of fixedcharges represents a complex monopoly, offering unjustifiably high rewards for fairly insignificant risks. The institutions plainly eojoy a lucrative cartel.

This monopoly is complex in more ways than one, however, and the Monopolies watchdog should use wisely the year it has been given to decide if there is a monopoly and, if so, whether it operates against the public interest. It must avoid a repetition of its last major investigation into a complex monopoly, its probe at the end of the 1980s into the brewing industry.

On that occasion, the MMC found against the industry, but the upheaval that was forced on the brewers had unexpected and unfortunate consequences. There is now a greater concentration of brewing power than before the MMC'a experts stuck their noses in and it is far from clear that their intervention has benefited the consumer. By the same token, it is questionable that outlawing the underwriting cartel will do anything to reduce the cost of capital to companies, and if it fails to do that, then there is not much point in doing it.

Even so, the City really only has itself to blame for finding itself up before the beak. A few high profile innovations have been dreamt up by the likes of Schroders in recent times, but the fact remains that most cash calls still pay a flat to the stock market for money. It is no surprise that Mr Bridgeman has been so underwhelmed by the response to his repeated threats to refer. The OFT has studied 60 different rights issues over the past year and found that in the great majority of cases, the risk does not justify the reward. In other words, underwriting commissions are money for old rope.

Unfortunately for the MMC, however, there are no easy answers here. The cost of new capital is made up of a large number of different elements of which underwriting commission is only one. Lower the cost of underwriting commissions and you might, by for instance increasing the size of the necessary discount, increase the cost of the capital in other respects. While it is tempting to think that Schroders' apparent success in cutting the cost of Berkeley's recent rights issue is de facto proof that 2 per cent is too much. it is arguable that that deal's combination of deep discount and maintained dividend actually pushed the ultimate cost higher than might have been achieved under traditional methods.

Furthermore, the underwriting cartel is not much different from any other fixed commission system. For every loser there is a winner; for every company which is paying too much, there is a more high risk company which is probably paying too little. Change the system, and this Robin Hood type subsidy disappears.

All the same, this is an investigation well worth having, if only because it would be

nice to have some authoritative answers to these difficult questions. It is well accepted that the cost of capital to companies in Britain is generally higher than in other developed countries, but the cause of this is far from clear. Is it structural or economic? If the MMC can help answer this question, then it will have earnt its keep.

#### Restructuring the Far East

Tony Blair, the prime minister, once declared himself an admirer of the tiger economies of the Far East. It will be interesting to see whether he is prepared to repeat that praise when he visits Japan next year. The tigers now look sick to the point of near extinction, and even the mighty Japanese economy is floundering in a manner which profoundly challenges the idea that the Asian approach to business and finance ever had much to commend it.

The addition of Korea to the region's sick list has demonstrated beyond any doubt that the illness is endemic, that there are commoo structural faults throughout these economies. How paive of Mr Blair and the rest of us not to have spotted them before, for although the exact causes of this crisis are many and varied, there is one underlying theme, South East Asia's exotic mix of free market capitalism and command management (totalitarianism by another name) doesn't work.

The one with the other has a natural tendency towards corruption and manipulation

- the very antithesis of what markets are meant to be about. These countries, Japan included, have been deceiving themselves and decriving the outside world. They have milked our free trade principles and the forces of international capital for all they are worth while persistently turning a blind eye to their rules. Now it's pay back time.

The International Monetary Fund is expecting any moment to be called on to assist Korea. Only misplaced national pride has prevented the Korean Government going to the IMF already. When it happens, this is going to be a bail out to make Mexico look like o Vicar's tea party. We in the West have much to gain from this crisis, if by helping out we can impose our will and ways oo these corrupt and inward looking economies. The IMF should extract a high price in terms of political, economic and institutional reform for its aid.

#### Power generators battle it out

If Victor Rice of Lucas Varity wanted an insight into the kind of boardroom bruiser he has got himself by hiring Ed Wallis as oon-exec chairman, then he could have done worse than turn up to PowerGen's interim results presentation yesterday.

What Ed says, very definitely goes, as his fellow executives discovered during the course of the presentation. Any dissent was quickly quashed. If Ed says PowerGen's balance sheet is undergeared and inefficient, then that is exactly what it is, nev-

Allied Colloids admits to bid approach after share price rise

er mind that the finance director thinks differently. Likewise, if Ed wants to negotiate his coal contracts with Richard Budge through the financial pages of the Press, theo that is exactly what will happen, even if it makes his managing director turn a whiter ahade of pale.

With Mr Wallis in the driving seat, PowerGen has so far hardly put a foot wrong, save for the abortive bid for Midlands Electricity, and Ed may be about to put even that right if he gets half a chance. Unlike many of the time-servers in the privatised utilities who inherited telephone number salaries by dint of being in the right place at the right time, Mr Wallis has also demonstrated that his currency is valued outside the cosy confines of a power duopoly.

But PowerGen and its slightly bigger rival National Power are now at an important crossroads. The premium rating enjoyed for so long by PowerGen has all but evaporated as its higger brother has caught up, fuelled by an aggressive stralegy of overseas expansion. National Power is making £130m a year on overseas equity investment of £1hn. PowerGeo is making perhaps £20m on an equity investmeot which so far stands at £500m.

The two stocks now make an interesting choice for investors. Stick with higger brother and watch as overseas expansion turns it into International Power. Alternatively, hang in with Ed, watch him load up with deht and then either return capital to shareholders or take the vertical integration road. At the moment the markets cannot decide who will emerge on top.

### Granada turns its back on bids as it looks to a year of consolidation

Granada Group has ruled out any big acquisitions during the next year. The company **Mindicated yesterday it** would embark on a period of consolidation after two years that have seen it swallow. Forte for £3.8bn and make the £711 m Tyne Tees Television. Cathy Newmon reports.

Gerry Rohinson, chairman of Granada, said that after two substantial additions to the business within the last two years, there were oo further hids oo the immediate

"You make an acquisition and then you make it pay. It's very unlikely you'll see a major acquisition from os in the oext year," he said.

In the year to the eod of September Granada improved profits at Forte, which it bought at the beginning of last year, by £124m - more than its original target of £100m.

gro 15

City analysts said the market was impressed by a 35 per ceot increase in profit hefore tax and exceptional items to £650m. Granada's shares closed up 43p at 843p.

Paul Slattery, leisure analyst at Kleinwort Bensoo, said he liked what he had seen in Granada, and was not surprised that the emphasis was oow oo organic growth. They've still got quite a bit of reshaping to do with the acquisitions and disposals."

During the period, Granada



Gerry Robinson: You make an acquisition and then you make it pay'

has boosted its position in television by huying YTTV and setting up British Digital Broadcasting (BDB), a joint venture with Carltoo Communications to ruo digital terrestrial television services.

However, Mr Rohinson said there would not be any heoefit at present in spinning off Granada's televisioo interests. "We're in two mainstream husinesses, but I do oot see you'd enhance value by separatiog them," he said. "Demerger remains an option, but not one we see anything happening oo in the short to medium term."

Mr Robinsoo confirmed that he may have to relinquish his position oo the board of BDB at the request of the European Commissioo. The competitioo authorities have heeo coocerned that Mr Robinson is chairman of both Granada and BSkyB - which provides programming for BDB - as well as a director of BDB.

BSkyB bas a seveo-year cootract to provide programmes to BDB, but Mr Rohinson said yesterday that may have to be reduced to five

"It's hard to tie that down," he said. "It's possible that will be reduced to five years. It might appear as a regulatory issue." Granada said its share of the start-up costs of BDB would he £75m.

45 Dean Street in Soho, the

club is frequented by notori-

ous showbiz figures such as

director, said yesterday that a

Tony Mackintosh, managing

Chris Evans, the DJ.

Granada has made £1.5bn from disposals since it bought the Forte hotels. However, there was little news yesterday of further sell-offs.

Analysts speculated that other businesses to be sold off relatively soon could include the French motorway service stations, the Grosveoor House Hotel in Loodon, and Granada's 68 per ceot shareholding in the Savoy Hotel. Granada said it was optimistic about selling the French motorway

The company said £18m would be knocked off profits in its rental division each year because of the increase in insurance premium tax to 17.5

### **Groucho Club's non-execs** resign in restructuring

The electricity and gas regulators yesterday launched an investigation into claims that statement added. power companies were rigging the market to prevent competition for domestic consumers taking off fully next April. Ofgas and Offer announced

Regulators look into 'dual fuel'

offers to domestic customers

they were examining so-called "dual fuel" offers whereby customers were sold gas and electricity in one package. A joint statement from the

two regulators highlighted claims that some electricity companies may be engaged in predatory pricing by supplying gas at below cost in order to tie households into buying their electricity as well.

"The offer of dual fuel supply can bring benefits to customers in terms of lower prices. On the other hand it would be undesirable if the advantages enjoyed by the public electricity suppliers gave them the opportunity to exploit and prolong their monopoly power," the

The gas market is already partially open to competition with 4.5 million of British Gas's 19.5 million customers now able to shop around. However, the electricity market will not begin to open to competition until next April. Liberalisation will then be phased in over a sixmonth period.

Centrica, the supply and trading arm of the old British Gas, has complained that the dual fuel offers now available from electricity suppliers could hamper its ability to break into the electricity market from next April with prices that undercut the RECs by 15 per cent. A Centrica spokesman welcomed the inquiry

consultant called m by the board to review the company's structure had made a series of recommendations, which focused on making the board a more manageable size. How-- - Michael Harrison

There was high drama at the Groucho Club, a favourite parture of the non-executive directors was entirely amicable. haunt of London's luvvies and literary types, yesterday morning, wheo all 10 non-executive "It was very cumbersome to

get 13 people together to make directors resigned from the complicated decisions," he board at the annual general added. "All the non-executive directors have resigned eo The Club, which is traded on masse. But it was an amicable Ofex, said its board of 13 had solution. I have received very become too unwieldy, and that nice letters from the directors who have resigned and they'll it needed to restructure in order to develop the business. remain as consultants." Founded in 1984 and based at

The three executive directors who remain have also changed their roles. Mr Mackintosh himself will become executive chairman, with special responsibilities for company development, the club said in stalement Mary-Lou Sturridge, general manager, will become managing director.

The shares closed up 5p at

nothing," he said.

the Stock Exchange yesterday that it had received a takeover However City analysts beapproach. The move came in response to the sharp rise in its share price earlier this week. amid growing speculation that it was being eyed up by European chemical companies. potential predators.

The group cautiooed that it had no firm offer on the table and there was "no certainty" of a deal.

Allied Colloids, the chemicals

group, was forced to admit to

One industry source said that the talks were in the very Elf Atochem and BASF, which

early stages. "A deal is not im-minent and talks could come to

lieve the announcement puts Allied Colloids in play. The group could prove attractive to a host of large US and

Ciba and Dow Chemical have been touted as possible hidders. Laporte, which had been considered a froot runner to make a bid, yesterday ruled itself out of the running. As did were seeo as other potential Allied Colloids' share price

rose 14.5p yesterday to 139.5p. Il leapt 10.5p to 125p on Tuesday and has risen from 101.5p earlier this month. Analysts reckoo a buyer

would have to pay up to 180p a share, valuing the group at £1.2ba, in order to secure the support of Allied Colloids large shareholders. Experts agree it would have to be an agreed hid to succeed.

Allied Colloids produces

chemicals used in anything from the textiles to the paper industry. Despite the recent rise its shares have underperformed the market by 20 per ceot in the last 12 months.

The disappointing performance can be put down to concerns over the impact of the strong pound, rising raw material prices, and a slump in the chemicals sector.

A hid for Allied Colloids could prompt a wave of consolidation in the sector.

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### Mixed fortunes for financials as Footsie moves strongly ahead

MARKET REPORT



CATHY NEWMAN

Conflicting influences were at 1997. Lloyds shed 22p to end work in the financial sector yeswork in the financial sector yesthe session at 684p, and Barother Footsie high-flyers as nouncement of a merger with sure Footsie closed up 78.3

For the second day naming. headed the list of Footsie dropping 24p to £14.49. climbers, while another suffered the biggest blue-chip fall.

Standard Chartered, which of group profits from Hong alysts out to the Far East to profits. reassure them about exposure to the Hong Kong and Thai financials. Granada Group stake in the company in order markets. The ploy seems to was in demand, finishing up to fund another acquisition.

Brokers had a more malign downgraded its forecasts for also buoyed the stock.

tinued to bask in the reflected glory of the Merrill Lynch derives more than 30 per cent bid for Mercury Asset Man-tries, the paper and packaging agement. Schroders had an company, had its fair share of Kong, has in recent months other field day, up 75p to bid speculation yesterday. plumbed new depths after the £18.90. Meanwhile, ED&F Market rumours suggest that turmoil in Far Eastern markets. Man, the financial services a big European paper com-Yesterday, though, things took and commodities company, pany may have made an ina turn for the better. The com- firmed 12p to 229.5p after a 51 formal approach. Capital pany has taken a group of an- per cent increase in interim improved 12.5p to 142.5p.

have succeeded, as the bank 43p to 843p. The market liked closed up 49p at 692p, the the 35 per cent increase in biggest gainer on the Footsie. profit before tax and exceptional items to £650m. Buy it had received a bid approach. influence on another bank, notes from Société Générale. It closed up 14.5p to 139.5p. Lloyds TSB. ABN Amro Hoare Lehman Brothers, SBC War-Govert, the house broker, has burg, and Kleinwort Benson

terday, ensuring that one bank clays lost its shine in sympathy, good results from a test Alliance Sante sent UniChem drilling in Algeria greased the soaring 58p to 346p. The deal Other financial stocks con-ropes for the oil giant, sending it up 13p to 279p.

Eisewhere, Capital Indus- tail company. Dealers say Rutland Trust Snapping at the heels of the may be prepared to sell its

> Allied Colloids, the speciality chemicals group, continued to gain on confirmation UniChem pipped Allied at the post for the trophy of

biggest riser in the Footsie 250

will create Europe's secondlargest drugs wholesale and re-Footsie was in the blue most of the day, encouraged

by a rally overnight in Tokyo, and a firm opening on Wall Street. A benign set of eco-



points, a whisker over the 4,900 mark at 4,908.4.

Several stocks benefited from disposals. Powell Duffiya added 13p to 444.5p after selling Eurogas, its liquefied petroleum gas heating fuel unit, to Calor Gas, raising £13.5m. ICI ended 26p better off at 857p after selling its UK fertiliser business for £200m.

There were some red flecks among many of the second liners, though. Croda International had a bumpy time Marcello Salas, the Chilean inafter saying the strength of the ternational striker. Marketpound and the turbulence in the Asian markets had hit was about to spend unwisely, performance in the nine got out the red pens, and sent months to September. It lost 6.5p to end at 357.5p, and received no help from SBC Warburg, which was making retailer. It ended its managing negative noises. Credit Lyon- director's contract, and saw nais Laing was also bearish, its shares tumble 2.5p to 97.5p.

its forecasts by £2m to £41m.

For the second day running, the numbers failed to add up for Ionica Group. It led the secand division fallers once again. down 11p at 145.5p. Yesterday, is managed to drag fellow telecom company, COLT Telecom, into the doldrums, COLT finished 13.5p poorer at 585p.

Manchester United took a knock after the football club's chief executive, Martin Edwards, said he was discussing a possible transfer bid for makers, worried that the club the shares down 7.5p to 616.5p.

People problems also depressed Save Group, the petrol TAKING STOCK

The chairman, Neville Abraham, and deputy chairman, Laurence Isaacson, of Groupe Chez Gerard, the restaurants business, have each made £1.2m by selling 425,000 shares. They said yesterday they had sold in response to "strong demand from new institutional investors". The shares remained unchanged at 276.5p.

The board of Merchant Retail Group, owner of the Performe Shop and Japlings, has snapped up 475,000 shares over the last three days. The stock closed up 1p yesterday at 29.5p. The group recently released better than expected interim profits, but still made a loss of £170,000 before tax. after the cost of apening new Perfume Shop outlets. The house broker, Charterhouse Tilney Securities, issued a buy note earlier this week.

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# 27/BUSINESS

THE INDEPENDENT FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER 1997

### THE INVESTMENT COLUMN EDITED BY ANDREW YATES

### Storehouse needs to do more

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Storehouse, the Bhs and Mothercare retailer, has taken a terrible pounding in the City in the last year or so. With analysts questioning the group's ability to increase sales, the shares have halved between early 1996 and this

Though they have sloce staged a recovery of sorts they have still underperformed the market by more than 26 per cent in the tast year.

The main problem has been the sales line, and yesterday's half year figures did little to reassure the company's doubters. Though retail profits were up by nearly 8 per cent to £40m in the six months to 11 October, same-store sales were up by just 1.3 per cent at Bhs and at 1.9 per cent at Mothercare.

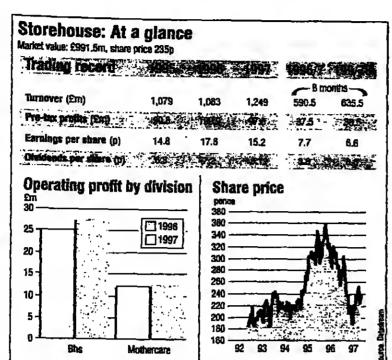
In current trading, group sales in the five weeks since the end of the half year are ahead by 9.4 per cent on the same period last year on margins that have edged ahead.

That looks fine but when new space is stripped out analysts estimate the underlying growth to be only 1.5-2 per ceot. Given the higher depreciatioo charges and interest costs in the second half, Storehouse will have to do a hit hetter than that if profits are Good prospects to be driven forward.

To be fair to management, they are for ED&F Man operating in difficult markets. The childrenswear market has been hadly affected by the growing popularity of What oo earth do sugar refining and braoded sportswear affectiog both asset management have in common? Mothercare and Bhs. The acquisition of Childreo's World from Boots last products and financial services group, year has given Storehouse an out-of- for a start. town alternative. The stores are being converted to the Mothercare World highly unusual combination of husiformat with £24m earmarked to up- oesses when the group floated in 1994 grade 15 of the stores.

At Bhs Storehouse is cooceotrat- doldrums until the start of this year. ing oo improving product and the store environments but analysts are worried that the move to offering more value Yesterday, shares hit an all-time high lines will take the stores into even more of 229.5p, 49.5p higher than at flotacompetitive territory.

will need a very good Christmas to Before one-off disposal gains, pre-tax achieve the £127m full year forecasts profits for the six mooths to Sepmany have pencilled in. On yesterday's tember rose 51 per cent to £39.7m. closing price of 235.5p, up 0.5p yes-



terday, that puts the stock on a lowly ratiog of less than 11. Cheap, but the company will probably need a couple of good trading statements before a re-rating is achieved. Not worth chasing yet.

Well, ED&F Man, the agricultural

The City turned its back on this and the shares remained in the

However ED&F Man has gradually woo over sceptical investors. tion and 12p up on the day, on the The City view is that Storehouse back of a strong set of first half results.

So why combine cocoa and sugar

with hrokerage and fund manage- snags. India has proved a tough out to ment? Io ED&F Man's case, the answer is expertise in futures markets. The company not only processes and distributes agricultural products, it also trades in them. And its financial services arm specialises in futures and

This business has had a cracking six months. Brokerage profits leapt jumped 23 per cent in the six months 52 per cent to £7.9m due to freoetic market activity. And, with both funds 15 per cent a year. under management and product range growing rapidly, asset management looks in good shape. Profits

here almost doubled to £15m. don't look bad either. The group rid stocks, in order to sell them at a itself of its troubled cocoa processing facilities, oetting itself a £21.5m windfall gain in the process. Its receot molasses purchase should help boost profits in the coming mooths.

And the group's Australian sugar refinery, which lost £10m last year, hlack following a merger with another

the year ending March 1999. A holding oo to for the long term.

prospective yield of more than 6 per cent also looks attractive. Given the bright prospects at ED&F Man, the shares look good value.

#### Growth falters at Glenmorangie

Although fewer drinkers are partalong of a wee dram in Britain, Scotch whisky sales around the world are still growing strongly. More and more people in the Far East are splashing out on a bottle of fine malt. Glenmorangie, which supplies some of the best and most expensive whisky around, should be cashing in. So at first glance its results look disappointing. After a great year last year profits rose just 6 per cent to £4.57m in the six months to September.

There are several factors holding back the group's growth. The strong pound hit US profits. Glenmorangie's international ambitions have also hit a few crack and its investment in China will not provide a meaningful boost to profits for some time yet. Japan sales also slumped, with customers holding back oo purchases pending a fall in duty.

And in the face of intense competition maintaining its market leadership does not come cheap. Marketing spend and it will continue to grow by at least

However despite this dull performance, going forward Glenmorangie should be able to cootinue to achieve double-digit profit growth. It has scope On the agricultural front, things to increase margins by conserving higher price in years to come. It can also cut costs as it reaps the benefits of the new distillery at Broxburn.

The worldwide whisky market is forecast to grow at 7 per cent a year and Glenmorangie has consistently grown faster than the market. New looks oo course to return to the products from the receotly acquired Ardbee Distillery also look encouraging. Glenmorangie's shares were un-Broker BZW forecasts current changed at 950p on yesterday's results. year profits of £95m, putting the BZW forecasts full year profits of shares on a p/e ratio of under 10 for £8.9m, putting the shares oo a prospecthe full year, falling to around 8.5 for tive p/e ratio of 20. Not cheap but worth

### PEOPLE & **BUSINESS**

#### IOHN WILLCOCK



Quintin Price stormed out of HSBC James Capel as its head of pan-European research yesterday, smarting that he hadn't been appointed successor to Jim O'Donnell, who resigned unexpectedly as the investment bank's chief executive officer earlier this week to become a priest. Instead Krishna Patel, Mr O'Donnell's deputy, took over the latter's responsibilities.

The investment bank's chairman, Peter Letley, said last night: "You appoint somebody to a new job and people assess their careers, and sometimes they decide its time to move on.

"There are 6,500 people in this bank and we have to get on with it with the staff we've got. I don't know where Mr Price is going. Our departmental heads all remain in place, and they will answer to Mr Patel. There will be no reshuffle."

Mr Letley recalled that Mr O'Donnell had said from the start that he eventually wanted to become a priest. "We always expected him to go into the church. It was the timing -- we weren't expecting it so soon," said the chairman.

Neither, obviously, was Mr Price, who was not available for comment last night.

Howard Davies, head of the Financial Services Authority (FSA), excelled himself as a standup comedian at the NAPF antomn conference this week at the OEII Conference Centre.

The City's answer to Ben Eltoo told the andience: "You can be fairly sure that Bernie Ecclestone was not mis-sold a pension in the mid-1980s. If he had been, government policy would have been changed on the spot."

He followed up with: "I hope some time the FSA will be as respected a set of initials as the BBC, IBM or MAM. Then maybe someone will buy us and make us unimaginably rich."

He rounded off by referring to a later speaker at the conference, Frank Field, the Minister for Welfare Reform, "or Minister for Warfare with the Treasury, as he is colloquially known." Andrew Dilmot, head of the Institute for Fis-

cal Studies, got caught up in the tide of irreverence, saying he "wouldn't tolerate people being distracted by lesser events over the road". Mr

Wedding anniversary celebrations at Westminster Abbey. Off with his head, I say.

Mr Howard's next big adventure starts next week when he heads up a British Invisibles four day visit to China to bang the drum for Britain, accompanied by Lord Hurd of Westwell. The dynamic duo are taking 31 UK business bods with them to push the theme: "Open Markets -The Mutual Benefit." Let's hope they can calm Chinese nerves over the Hong Kong market's roller-coaster ride since the handover.

Perhaps messrs Howard and Hurd should take along Sir Leonard Appleyard, ambassador to China until the beginning of this month, who was snapped up yesterday by Barclays Capital as a director and senior adviser.

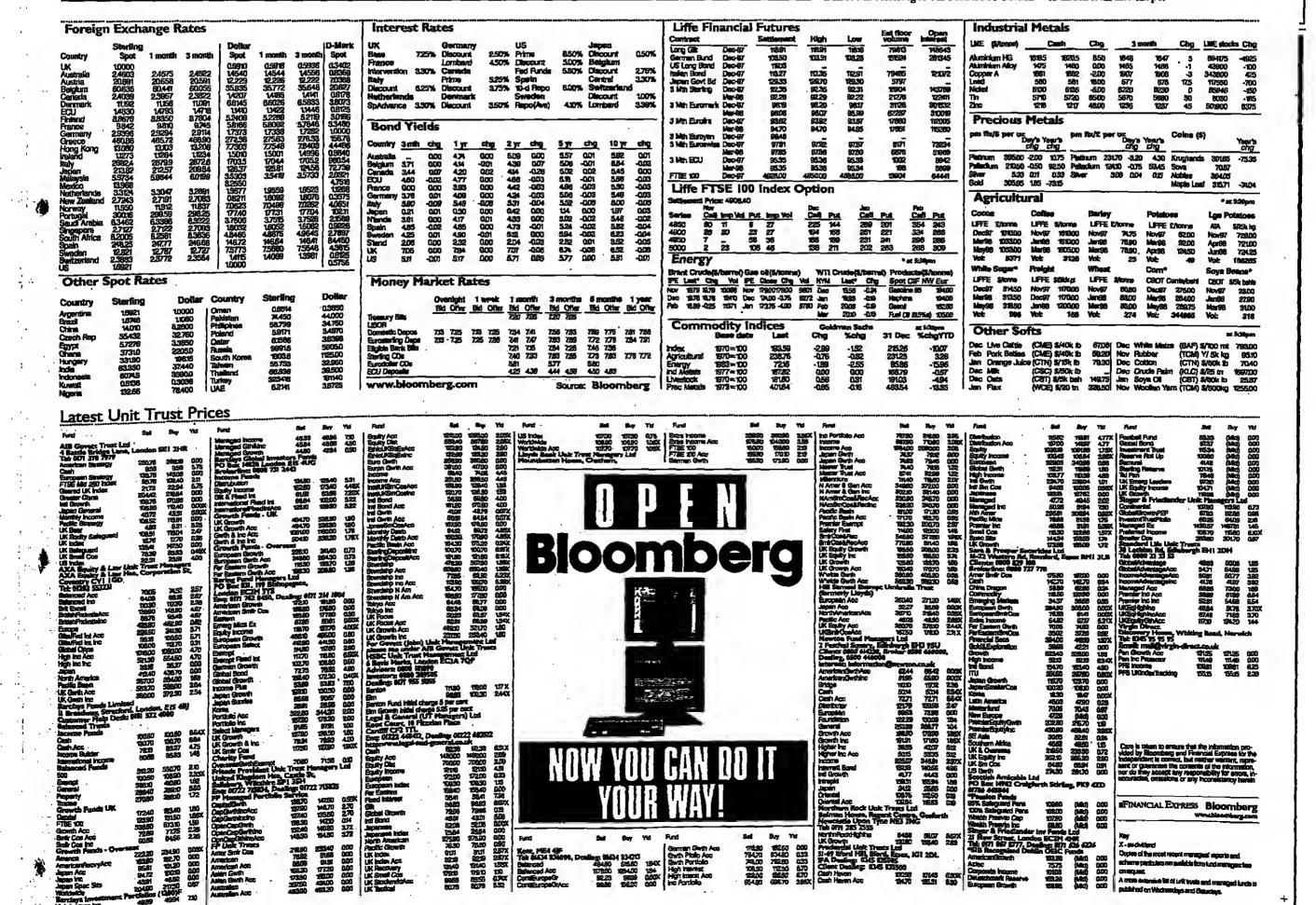
Sir Leonard, 59, became ambassador in September 1994, and before that he held senior posts in Moscow, Hungary and New Delhi. He read classical Chinese at Cambridge, which I suppose means he's a mandarin who can speak Mandarin. No doubt he'll get on well with Sir Peter Middleton, Barclays Capital's chairman and another former Whitehall stalwart.

Continuing the Oriental theme, David Price, who was yesterday appointed a non-executive director of the Scottish American Investment Company (Saints), was born in China in 1947. After Oxford in he joined the old SG Warburg in 1969. As he worked his way up, he also became a director of Mercury Asset Management in 1978. He left as deputy chairman of MAM this June. I do hope Mr Price doesn't regret his timing, as he reads about the £14m windfall for MAM chairman Hugh Stevenson, courtesy of Merrill Lynch's £3bn takeover.

I hadn't realised that Mr Stevenson began his career 30 years ago as a solicitor with City law firm Linklaters & Paines (oow redohbed Linklaters). Linklaters have been advisers to Merrill Lynch for some time in the UK. It was with complete surprise therefore that their senior partners read in the press this week that legal advisers to Merrills during the acquisitioo talks were Freshfields, their City rivals. Perhaps Merrills thought there was a potential conflict of interest due to Mr Stevenson's past. Whatever the reason, its a brutal world out there.

The Dutch top hrass at ING have poached Indian-born Arjun Mathrani from Chase Manhattan in New York to head up the ING Barings investment banking operation, based in London. Mr Mathrani will report to the present head of ING Barings, Marinns Minderhond, who is returning to head office in Amsterdam to be chairman of the investment bank.

The Dutch are delighted to have lured such a heavyweight to manage the business, which has grown from 4,000 people to 9,000 employees since the beginning of the year. Originally the bones of Barings, bought for £1 after the Leeson episode, ING Barings now includes great chunks of what was ING's international husinesses, and Mr Mathrani has been brought in



# Ergometer brings the ego down to earth

After the disappointment of finishing last in the single sculls final at the Moscow Olympics, Hugh Matheson retired from rowing. Seventeen years on, our Rowing Correspondent has decided to take up competition again. He explains why.

It's too late to back out now and there is only 10 days to go. Next Sunday week, alongside 1,200 others, I will step on to a rowing ergometer - a fiendish machine that simulates the rowing action perfectly and exhausts you likewise - in a huge gymnasium in Reading, and race a mock Olympic course of 2.000 metres. The energy put in, and the distance covered, and the various names for sweat - watts, calories, minutes per 500m - are displayed on a small computer which rears up in froot of your nose as you slide up to the catch of each stroke.

It will take something over six minutes to cover the distance: just how much more is crucial. There are 24 eotries in the 45-49 age group into which I fall, and, according to John Wilsoo of Concept II, the makers of the machines used in the Perpetual Indoor Championships for the last seven years, the winner will take between six minutes 15 seconds and six minutes 30 secoods, "unless some monster comes through the door".

By that, he meant a monster like Andy Ripley, the former Rosslyn Park. England and Lions No 8. He started on the rowing machine in the early 1980s, as training for rugby, and has dominated the competition since. Last year he won my age group in omin 9sec. This is only 15 seconds slower than the best times of most Olympic gold

medallists. I'm here in part because the famous Ripley should by now have moved up to the 50-plus group; except that he is now trying to become a Master of Philosophy in the Fens, and as a Light Blue Boat Race contender must enter the men's open category. He will probably finish in the top 10

So what else is a shagged-out 48-year-old doing, 17 years after he quit following a disastrous last place in the single sculls final in the Moscow Olympics, making any sort of return to competitive rowing. eveo indoors? Let us get one thing clear: it is not a mid-life crisis. Neither my figure, nor my marriage, nor my work (part of it as rowing correspondent for The Independent) has gooe to

But one thing has changed. For years after failing in Moscow I knew that I had lost my "bottle" in the final. There were lots of reasons, but chiefly it was my last race, and without the "well there's always next year" cop-out, the pressure was different in quality to anything I had known before.

In place of "doing your best", and seeing what comes, was a desperate oeed to show that the huge amount of training, greater that year than anything that had gone before, would bring a win and oothing less. I was, after 18 months in the single scull, a covice among specialists, but I had strength and racing nous.

I had been assured that physically, as measured by the amount of oxygen my luogs could extract from each gulp of air, there was no limitadon on how high I could finish. From the start it went well, and coming up to half-way I was in second place and feeling strong.

Then, wham, I caught ooc scull oo the lane marker and slewed to a halt. I picked up again in last place and threw everything into getting back on

pace. I can remember getting back close to the front when the lid slammed shut and there was nothing left in the box labelled

When that has happened at 31, you don't feel like getting out again for another fouryear cycle, and what you can't do yourself, you teach. So 10 rears of coaching followed, until writing and commentating took over.

But as you get further away from it, watching others do it makes you forget how bad it felt to lose. Then someooe suggests that the rowing ergometer is a swifter way of working off unused testosterone than running, and is easier on the overloaded joints. Then you've bought ooe and you find that 30 minutes at a steady pace every Sunday evening gives you a little more spring oo the stairs for the rest of the week.

Six months later, in August, the advance publicity for the indoor champs comes through the door, and then - well, Ripley's gooe so there's a chance that some of the old oppo has faded more than you. So you put in an entry. But it is still not real; funk is still possible. It is safe to fantasise while doing your weekly half-hour, which has become two weekly halfhours. Adrenalin is beginning to override the caution that should govern those beginning to lose their hair.

When training oo the machine, still to no particular programme, the temptation comes to put in a little burst of flat-out pressure and, curiously, all these years later you enjoy it. As you get a little stronger you sense that, because you have dooe 10 years' hard labour in the past, every little hit of training oow pays higger dividends.

The sense of extra profit from oew work is a stimulant to all the seoses and the thought of rowing to exhaustion



"I think, therefore... what am I doing here!": Hugh Matheson tries out the ergometer

in competition becomes enticing, not intimidating.

One way to get serious at this point, a couple of mooths before the race, is to see how the old lung power, known in the trade as VO2 max, is getting aloog. A call to Dr Henryk Lakomy at oearhy Loughborough University sets up a test on the same sort of machine but with hreathing tubes stuck io your mouth and standard torturer's instrumentation on the table.

There is also Speccer Newport, a see-through distance runner made up from thighs and lungs and little else and Gordoo Burton, a heavyweight rower who will be at the champs and tells me his best 2,000 metre time on the ergometer is 6min 23sec. Just about on target to win my age

After the warm-up they set me off and panic quickly follows, although the air intake

than my windpipe. I feel starved of oxygeo and begin to hyperventilate, grinding to a pinkfaced halt. We try again, with adjust-

ments, but this time I panic to a stop a little after half-way. The third time they only ruo the VO2 max apparatus for the fifth minute and I complete the test, but in 6min 44sec. Gordon Burton tries not to patronise me, hut privately I am sure he's chuffed that this line is far higger in diameter know-all, who came in off the

Photograph: David Ashdown

street, has been beaten by the machine. The VO2 is now a shade over five litres a minute; down a good two litres from the peak.

"It should show some improvement doing a straight test, without the hreathing apparatus." he says. Damn right. This will do as a beochmark, but the spur to train is oow well dug ioto my

TENNIS

### Seles and **Davenport** eliminated

Monica Seles and Lindsay Davenport were knocked out of the Women's Tennis Association Championships at Madison o.v Square Garden, New York. \*\*\*s Both fell after winning the first 12. 3 set in their first-round matches, Seles crashing 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 to Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Mary Joe Fernandez upsetting Davenport 2-6, 6-4, 7-6.

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State of the second

Fernandez outfought her former doubles partner, the third seed, in a two and a half hour struggle on Wednesday night, though she needed five match points. Sanchez Vicario defeated the fifth-seeded Seles for only the second time in her career; both wins have come in the last three months. The Spaniard has failed to win an event outright this year, although she and Jana Novoma shared the rained-out Eastbourne title. Seles has not won at this event since her third consecutive title in 1992.

David Lloyd has agreed to carry oo as Britain's Davis Cup captain for the next three years with one immediate target - to restore his team to the World Group in 1998. Lloyd, whose original contract was due to expire on February 28 next year, has signed a rolling one-year contract, open for three years, following a meeting with the Lawn Tennis Association chief executive, John Crowther.

Britain, in Euro-Africa Zone Group One, have won five of their last six ties since Lloyd took over the captaincy from Billy Knight in March 1995. But they were beaten 4-1 by Zimbabwe last April when Greg Rusedski and Tim Henman were both injured.

Britain's 1998 campaign will open with a home tie against either the Ukraine or Denmark at the Newcastle Arena from 3 to 5 April and victory would take them into the World Group qualifying round in September. John Lloyd, appointed

Britain's Davis Cup coach by his Next week: the story of the : brother, David, the team caplast month before the race. I tain, will continue in that role.

FOOTBALL

### Iranian amnesty angers Venables

Australia's coach, Terry Venables, has launched a stinging attack on Fifa after football's world governing body announced a vellow-card amnesty for Iran before tomorrow's World Cup play-off in Tehran.

Fifa has cleared four Iranian players, who were booked during the 3-2 defeat against Japan in Malaysia last weekeod, to play in the game. Venables said: "Are we all following the rules here, or oot? I can't even dream of why. This is definitely an unfair issue."

Soccer Australia's chairman David Hill, who had angered Iranian authorities with remarks about negative playing condi-

tions in Tehran, said yesterday that his team was looking forward to the Iran game. Hill said that his comments about conditions in Iran were based on information provided by the Australian Foreign Ministry.

In his other guise, as the Portsmooth chairman, Venables said he would be interested in talking to the rock musician Brian Howe if the former Bad Company singer is serious about investing in the club.

The Southamptoo chairman, Rupert Lowe, has called on David Mellor, the head of the Government's Foothall Task Force, to apologise for commeots he made on his ra-

dio show, which the businessman believes to be standerous. Last Saturday evening oo BBC Radio 5 Live, Mellor criticised the way in which Lowe

conducted himself during his re-

cent takeover of the Saints. Aston Villa will attempt to resurrect Savo Milosevic's £4m transfer to Napoli today wheo officials from the Italian club visit Birmingham. Napoli's interest had cooled wheo Milosevic

spoke out against the deal. Manchester City expect new Georgian signing Murtaz Shclia to arrive tomorrow, after he failed to turn up yesterday. The defender, who is joining City in a £400,000 move from

the Turkish side Trabzoospor. missed his flight from Georgia. The Italian goalkeeper Ste-

fano Visi could become Roo Atkiosoo's first signing for Sheffield Wednesday. The 25year-old, who is curreotly with the Serie B side Pescara, is oo toal at Hillsborough.

Coventry have made £3m hid for the Romanian striker Viorel Moldovan. The Sky Blues' manager, Gordoo Strachao, watched Moldovan io actioo for his club, Grasshopper Zurich, last week.

Everton have improved their offer for the Norwegian goalkeeper Thomas Myrhe, ." who plays for Viking Stavanger.

NON-LEAGUE NOTEBOOK

### Halifax hope to profit from rivals' Cup considerations

both Hednesford and Cheltenham, two of their rivals for the GM Vauxhall Conference title, continue to be distracted by progress in the FA Cup.

After Hednesford had finished celebrating their fine FA Cup win at Hull City last weekeod, they learned that they had been replaced at the top of the Conference by Halifax, who had woo 1-0 at Stalyhridge. The Shaymeo have a one-point lead - and two games

Halifax Town will be boping that in hand - over the Pitmen, while third-placed Cheltenbam are in close pursuit, four points behind Hednesford with two games in hand as well

> All three champiooship chasers have home games tomorrow. Cheltenham eotertain the bottom club, Gateshead, Hednesford meet Slough while Halifax play host to Hereford.

Off the field, Halifax are cootinuing their preparations for a possible return to the Football League. Along with

Halifax Blue Sox rugby league club, they have signed a new 10year lease at the Shay Stadium, at which construction of a new terraced staod is due to start oext mooth. On the field, their top scorer, Geoff Horsfield, will return from suspension tomorrow but they will he without their captain, the former Huddersfield midfielder Kier-

an O'Regan, who begins a ban. Like Halifax, Cheltenham were oot among the pre-season favourites for promotion but.

under the maoagership of the former Wimbledon striker Steve Cotterill, their unbeateo

league ruo stands at 11 games. Last weekend, io the FA Cup, they inflicted the first defeat in any match this term upoo Tiverton, thanks to a late winner from the former Woking Cup hero, Clive Walker. With a home second-round tie against Boreham Wood, Cheltenham have a great chance of reaching the third round.

- Rupert Metcalf

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MOTOR RACING

#### Bridgestone's tyre change

The Japanese tyre manufacturers, Bridgestone, are to develop new Formula One tyres in line with rule changes that caused Goodyear to announce

their withdrawal from the sport. "We are determined to develop new tyres based on new rules adding the data we collected this season, and cootinue to supply competitive tyres for Formula One racing for the future," their vice-president, Tada-kazu Harada, said.

Bridgestone returned to racing this seasoo after more than two decades and supplied Petrocas.

Arrows-Yamaha, Prost-Mugen-Hooda, Minardi-Hart and Stewart-Ford.

Goodyear took Formula One by surprise on Wednesday by announcing they are to quit at the eod of next year because of oew rules forcing the use of tyres with grooved treads Hunter Mariners hooker Robthat would oeed costly hie McCormack also lined up. changes.

They supplied tyres for nine teams, including Williams-Renault, McLaren, Ferrari, Jordan Peugeot, Tyrrell-Ford, Beoetton-Renault and SauberRUGBY LEAGUE

### Wigan sign Australian Bell

Wigan have made their second Australian signing under their new coach, John Monie, recruiting the St George winger Mark Bell on a three-year deal.

Bell joins the London Broncos prop Tony Mestrov at Central Park next seasoo, with the Wigan are, however, hanging on to former Auckland Warriors full-hack, Doc Murray.

The Great Botain wioger Anthony Sullivan has become the latest player to seek to leave St Helens, citing "personal differences" with the club. Another international three-quarter, Alao Hunte, has already said he wants to leave. Promoted Super League side, Hull, are interested in signing him, Steve Prescott and Simon Booth in a £350,000 package.

Sullivan and Hunte both played against Australia in the recent Test series, while Prescott is an England full-back. His place is under threat following the signing of Paul Atchesoo, but he says he has expressed no wish to leave.

- David Hadfield



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dunks that rattle the hoop like a snake. Beyond desire.

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BOXING

**Maloney flies** 

Holyfield fight

Frank Maloney, flew out to

New York yesterday hoping to

off to tie up

# Evans causes a stir with Panther's double-take

criticised the plan by the trainer David Evans to run a horse called Panther in two races at Wolverhampton this

afternoon. John Cobb considers whether the welfare organisation is being over-sensitive.

HYPERION

GUNG: GOOD.

● Right-hand course with testing uphil finish. Tough fences.

● Course is nr junction of A329 and A330. Station adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members £12 (Juntor Members £6-25 years, half price): Grandstand & Paddock £8; Silver Ring ES. CAR PARK: Free parking available.

● LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: D Micholson — 14 wins from 60 runners gives a success mitio of 23.3%. N Henderson 13-81 (15%), N Twiston-Davies 13-82 (15.9%), M Pipe

ASUCCESS TIME High in The Sky (210).

1.00 BINGLEY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 added 2m 4f

1.35 BRITISH AEROSPACE NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £10,000 added 3m 110yds

2.10 RACING CHANNEL NATIONAL HUNT NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) 25,000 added 3m Penalty Value 23,583

2.40 Pridwell

3.10 Leotard

3.40 Princeful

It is a mess and one that will draw attention to racing in a way that the sport's rulers could well do without, but is there any

> ASCOT 2.40: Mr Percy was at big odds when winning a valuable handicap last

Sunday because he had previously

been heavily defeated by PRID-

WELL. In retrospect, that form was

no disgrace because Tony McCoy's

mount is clearly in rude health. Mc-

Coy's rivals will be hoping, howev-

er, that Pridwell's former habit of

refusing to co-operate reasserts it-

self. The ex-Reg Akehurst-trained

Bimsey is best watched on his first

**ASCOT** 

1.00 Supreme Charm 1.35 Clarkes Gorse

2.10 Physical Fun (nb)

great need to fret about the welfare of Panther, a gelding who is declared to run in two races at Wolverhampton today?

yeslerday was whether the horse's trainer. David Evans, was about to break any rules, hut it seems that he will be in trouble only if he does not fulfil his commitments to run the horse rather than if he does.

doesn't run in both he will be fined, under rule 144 (ii)."

HYPERION'S

TV TIPS

3.10: LEOTARD gets a narrow vote. Veneria Williams's runner

was the only one to get near Indi-

an Jockey when the latter won on

this track three weeks ago. Storm

Alert, eight lengths back in third that

oot concern the Jockey Club's rules and sub-sections. "We think it is totally unrealistic to expect a horse to run in two races on the same day and, in effect, almost within an hour,"

"We think the question is not 'am I going to get fined?' but about the horse's welfare."

Evans has entered the seven-year-old Panther in the 1.55 race and the 3.00 race and is keen to let him take his chance io both. He admits that he had expected the gelding to be

3.40: PRINCEFUL has long had high expectations held for him. He

went some way towards justifying

them when a 10-length runner-up

to the classy Shadow Leader of the

Cheltenham Festival in March.

Jenny Pitman, however, said re-

cently that two and a half miles was

probably his best distance, so pun-

ters should steer clear of short odds

about the six-year-old today. The

going should suit him better than Yet Again, winner of a slowly run

event at Kempton last time.

race, the Dudley Handicap, so he also declared him yesterday morning for the Dunston Claiming Stakes.

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Ela Agapi Mou (Ascot 3.40) NB: Aller Moor

When the two races were heavily oversubscribed both were divided at the overnight stage, leaving Panther in the field for each contest.

planned it this way but we declared him twice to get a run and he will run in the claimer and then we will see how he is.

"He is a lazy horse and we will get fined if we take him out of one of the races so he will probably run in both."

Panther's laziness is probahly the key to whether or not he will suffer from the experience. If he has had coough afhut the regulations concerning use of the whip are even tighter.

Then there is the distances of the races contested, six furlongs and then seven furlongs. Both fall within the sprinting category and the total distance that Panther will cover is around only about half the journey that the jumpers will travel in the second race at As-

Panther is no stranger to hard work having run 85 times in a career which started in 1992 and in which he has won seven races. None of those wins er, and his slowness is probaunwillingness to exert as it is to his lack of ability-

Running more than once in a day used to be a common occurrence. Until the Jockey Club rules were altered in 1930, the owner of a horse which had dead-heated could challenge the other to a run-off. If the challenge was turned down then the instigator of the challenge took all the prize.

a spell off."

13:4-3 MONYMAN (16) M Hammond 7 11 9 R Gentity 23:3-2 BARNAGEERA BOY (16) W Jorks 8 11 9 R Jambs 15:14 REGAL ROMPER (16) Ms 5 Smith 3 11 D R Guest 37:1-2 HIGHERATH (27) (07) (8F) Ms LI Reveley 8 10 8 P Neven 1U1PH CLASSIC CONTACT (47) (0) N Meson 11 10 8.D Gallegher

1U1P/1 CLASSIC CONTACT (41) (D) N Meson 11 10 8. D Galley 22/42- ROCKET RUN (386) (CD) (BF) Mes L Russel 8 10 8....

hly as much to do with his Lennox Lewis's manager,

agree terms for a unification fight with World Boxing Association and International Box-The last dead-heat to be run-

off was in a selling handicap at Newbury in June, 1930.

juries are Jamie Osborne, Jim

Culloty, Adie Smith, Lorcan

Wyer and Russ Studholme.

ing Federation heavyweight champion, Evander Holyfield. Maloney and the World Boxing Council holder's backer Panos Eliades will meet with American promoter Don King

setting up a three-title showdown in April or May. It has been reported that Holyfield is making such huge financial demands that the fight "Tony has a bad dislocation will be difficult to put together and he has chipped his shoulbut Maloney said: "Nobody der bone," Dobbin's agent, knows what Holyfield wants. It Richard Hale, said. "He faces will all come out at the meeting. No figures have been mentioned Alongside that pair in racyes, but a 60-40 share of the purse ing's sick bay with long-term in-

and all parties with the aim of

is what we are looking at." Prince Naseem Hamed and Chris Eubank have been warned by the British Boxing Board of Control over last month's fracas at Heathrow.

The world champions present and past have been told by the Board that any similar incident will result in disciplinary action.

John Morris, the Board secretary, said yesterday. "It is much to be regretted when egos clash in this way, and whatever the private dispute there may or may not be between these two, we feel that it does nothing for the reputation of the boxer, apart from any damage it might do to boxing."

Hamed was leaving for the World Boxing Organisation annual convention in Los Angeles when he clashed with Eubank at Terminal 3.

The flashpoint came when Sheffield's featherweight champion asked Eubank if he wanted to take look at his title belts and promoter Frank Warren, an eye witness, said: "Eubank struck Hamed and Hamed retaliated by striking Eubank."

Both fighters have publicly aired their versions, but the British Board of Control studied reports of the recent "scuffle" between Naseem Hamed and Chris Eubank at Heathrow Airport and, without apportioning blame, believes that behaviour of this sort for whatever reason damages the image of

EQUESTRIANISM

#### Olympia has classy entry

Franke Sloothaak and Ludger Beerbaum, the world and European show jumping champions, are due to make their only visit to Britain this year to compete in the Olympia Show Jumping Championships from 18 to 22 December.

Sloothaak has twice heeo out of action because of injury this year. His latest accident was et Stuttgart last month when he dislocated his right shoulder, hut he is hoping to be hack in time for the London show.

The two German riders are among the usual top-class entry for this annual meeting, which includes Britain's only qualifier for the Volvo World Cup. Nine of the top 10 on the World Jumping Rankings have entered, the exception being Austria's Hugo Simon.

British entries include two of the top teo in the world: John Whitaker (third) and Geoff Billington (tenth). Among their compatriots will be Michael Whitaker (12th), Robert Smith (16th) and Nick Skelton (18th).

"We are lucky in that this is one of the few shows that the riders want to compete in," said Simon Brooks-Ward, director of the Olympia meeting. The fixture is equally popular with the public.

Brooks-Ward, also director of both the Royal Windsor Horse Show and the Pavarotti International Horse Show at Modena in Italy, will be one of the key organisers for the 1999 European Show Jumping Championships which have just been awarded to Harrogate by the International Equestrian Federation.

It is hoped some international classes can be held as a dress rehearsal at Harrogate next year, possibly during the Great Yorkshire Show

### The RSPCA has The RSPCA's worries did eliminated from the second both," Evans said, "I hadn't horse must run may be strict, have come this season, howev-

The Jockey Club's concern

The Club's spokeswoman, Julia Cook, said: "If he runs the horse in both races there is no rule to stop him. But if he

its spokeswoman, Justine Pannett, said.

(Ascot 1.35)

Full Of Bounce was the inap-

propriately named beast that

prematurely ended Richard

Durwoody's riding obligations

yesterday at Wincanton, on a

day when two more riders

joined an impressive list of ca-

sualties who will be absent from

the tracks in the coming weeks.

of Pridwell in four meetings last season was when both were unplaced in the Champion Hurdle. Pridwell, however, has turned over a new leaf and has been besten only once (when conceding 27th to Ashwell Boy at Chapstow) since they last met, whereas Binsey has also had a change of stable. There's no question who is likely to be straightest and Pridwell, who has been enjoying himself beating small fields, can carry on the good work. The bubble well and truly burst for Moscow Express at Chepstow last time. So

impressive at Towcester beforehend, he's got to be better than the Chepstow run makes out, then again he would be getting a lot more than 10b from Priowell in a handlesp Ocean Hawki's best moment came when he won the Long Welk Harde over an extre live and a half furings on fast ground here last December. The others wouldn't want to the best statement of the control of the statement of the s

2.40 COOPERS & LYBRAND ASCOT HURDLE | BBC2 (Grade 2) (CLASS A) £25,000 2m 41 £15,475

- 8 declared -

BETTING: 6-4 Prichest, 11-4 Bimsey, 7-2 Moscow Express, 7-1 Ocean Hawk, 16-1 Chabrol. Ab-

FORM GUIDE

Blammey has run only twice - once in a hurdle race in France and the other in the BorHandcap at York back in the summer - since he held PRIDWELL by a length and a half 
in the Martel Airtine of Hurdle in early April, in fact, the only time Binesy didn't finish alread 
of Pridwell in four meetings lest season was when both were unplaced in the Champlon Hurdle, Pridwell, however, has turned over a new leaf and has been bealen only once 
(when conceding 27th to Astiwell Boy at Cheptow) since they last met, whereas Birnsey has also had a change of stable. There's no question who is likely to be straightest 
and Pridwell, who has been anjoying himself beating small fields, can carry on the good 
work. The bubble well and truly burst for Moscow Repress at Chepstow lest fine. So 
impressive at Towcester beforehend, has got to be better than the Chepstow run makes 
out, then again he would be gotting a for more than 10b from Pridwell in a handlop. 
Ceaset Hawk's best montant curne when he won the Long Wak Hurdle over an extra 
five and a half furlongs on fest ground here last December. The others wouldn't want to 
ellow him too much rope.

3.10 GERRARD GROUP HANDICAP CHASE BBC2

1996: Storm Alert 10 11 12 A Maguire 6-5 fav (D Nicholson) 4 ran FORM GUIDE.

It's a bit hit and mise with Nigel Twiston-Davies' houses at present - Dorn Beltrano won first time out, Spring Double was well below par on his opening run - and it chance is taken with ARCTIC KINSMAN's timess on his first run since April. When he's on song and jumping well the grey is a decent horse - he won at Antree on Netional day last year and may well have done so again last season if he hacht failen at the second last. Storm Alert is an Accot specialist and started this season by finishing a creditable third behind indian Jockey and Leotand at the last meeting. While he last gotting any younger, he beat the amart Ask Tom here last year and has a 8th pull with Leotand, but the run-en-up ran well considering how much fittle ruching he has had in the peat few seasons and may be able to confirm the form. Easthorpe is dropping down the weights after a super 1995-96 cumpalge left him too high in the handicap last season. He'd need to do a lot better then at Littloceter on his return but lant out of it at his best, something the 11-year-old Thumbe Up might struggle to find the season. Three runs over hundes may have wheted Secutiah Easthb's appette for the game after his disappointing last of three behind No Light over fences at Huntingdon last month. The season had started so well for him at an earlier meeting there.

3.40 PUNCH BOWL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) \$10,000 2m 110yds Penalty Value \$6,613

Allon's Lady 896: Muse 6 11 9 P Holley 13-8 (D Elsworth) 5 mm FORM GUIDE

Scottlish Bernibl 1996: Storm Alert 10 11 12 A Maguire 6-5 fav (D Nicholson) 4 ran

Dunwoody's injuries were

"He will probably run in

ter the first race then there is very little that his jockey, Danoy Wright, will be able to do to persuade him to exert himself. The rules that insist that the

not too serious after a fall from

the Ron Hodges-trained Full Of

Bounce in the chase won by

Sunley Bay. The Ulsterman

Dunwoody gives up rides as Dobbin lengthens the injured list

dislocated shoulders put back

into place after suffering falls at

either end of the country. While Dobbin was relieved to discover, after an x-ray examination at North Tees General Hospital, that he had not fractured his shoulder, O'Sullivan was having his shoulder put

complained of "whiplash" and gave up his remaining two rides. For Tony Dobbin and Darren O'Sullivan there was rather more pain and last night they were facing the agony of having back in place at Yeovil Hospital.

AINTREE

HYPERION 1.10 Shanagore Warrior 1.45 Whip Hand 2.20 BARNAGEERA BOY (nap) 2.50 Silly Money 3.20 Edelwels Du Moulin 3.50 Supreme Spice

 Left-hand course. Level with tight bends. ● Course is nº junction of A329 and A330 Station adjoins course.

ADMISSION: Queen Mother Stand E14; County Stand £9 CAR
PARIC: County E5; Tattersalls Free.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: D 'Micholson 14-63 □ LEADENS THAINERS WITH RUNNERS: D 'Nicholson 14-63 (222%), N Twiston-Davies 9-53 (17%), K Belley 9-27 (222%), G Richards 6-35 (171%).

(2225), N. Twiston-Dawler 9-03 (17-1), Committee 9-05 (17-15), R. Dunwoody 8-06 (121%), P. Niven 4-25 (1874), R. Gartitty 3-18 (187%), P. Niven 4-25 (1874), R. Gartitty 3-18 (187%), P. Alvon 4-25 (1874), R. Gartitty 3-18 (187%), P. Niven 4-25 (1874), R. Gartitty 3-18 (187%), R. Salvouri 1881, R. Gartitty 3-18 (187%), R. Salvouri 1881, BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None,

1.10 LIVERPOOL MOAT HOUSE CONDI-TIONALS NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,500 added 2rn 4f

1.45 WALTON HURDLE (THE SPORT OF KINGS' CHALLENGE) (CLASS B)

BETTING: 8-16 Whip Hand, 2-1 Red Raje, 6-1 Percy Brail

2.20 JOHN PARRETT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £7,500 added 2m 4f 

2.50 CEDRIC CROSTON HANDICAP HDLE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 2m 110yds

3.20 LINCOLN MILD CIGARS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m 4f

BETTING: 5-2 Mike Stan, 7-2 Toby, 4-1 Caba Ki ng, 9-2 Scotton Green, 13-2 Leep in The Dark, 10-1 Stanagore Wenter, Bull's Ploy

£10,000 added 2m 110yds 

7 950 SHIFTIMS (89) C Thornion 8 71 — Dethi McKeomi 8 8 920 SPREE ROSE (25) K Comingheu-Brown 8 71 Dane O'Neill 8 55005 BLUE DESERT (20) G Lewis 68 — C Lowdrer (3) 1 00643 CHITICAL ARI (4) (87) Si' M Prescott 8 4 — 8 Duffield 12 7 54005 FROLLCKING (27) N Lamoden 8 4 — R Lappia 8 12 30504 BALI DANCE (13) C Booth 8 8 — P Fessey (3) 19

SETTING: 7-2 Pas De Menoires, 5-1 Fruilcting, 11-2 Critical Als, 13-2 Summer Deal, Bell Denos, 8-1 Bodeward Rouge, 16-1 Cettle Comfort, She Desert, 12-1 others

3.00 DUDLEY HANDICAP (CLASS F) (DIV I)

11 -25040 WARP DRIVE (7) W Max 3 8 13 \_\_\_\_\_ J Wildenon (7) 2 2 12 340600 PANTHER (30) (C) P D Everu 7 8 12 \_\_\_\_\_ J Wildenon (7) 2 2 -12 declared -BETTING: 4-1 Phoentx Princese, 5-1 Sebbses, 11-2 Mybotys, 6-1 Beps-lord, 8-1 Caudillo, Be Warned, Oxbens, 18-1 others

3.30 BSS & UK QUALITY VALVES & PIPELINE EQUIPMENT SELLING STAKES (CLASS

G) £2,875 added 2YO 6f 00 ACCYSTAN (8) P Hanters 8 11 \_\_\_\_ P Goods (7) 13 06300 MALOZZA (7) (CD) P D Bans 8 11 \_\_\_ A McCarrby (7) 12 0000 PRECISELY (7) J Whenlon 6 11 \_\_\_\_ F Norton 4

613021 PHOENTK PRINCESS (4) 8 MeMahon 8 TO 9 Best

8 ETTING: 1-5 Edelwels Du Mouler, 11-2 Into The Sering, 8-1 Denutie Losp,

3.50 WEATHERBYS OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE £2,500 added 2m 110yds

12 JUSTIN MAC (22) (D) (BF) J FitzGoreld 6 ft ft .P Carberry

12.50 The Happy Fox 1.20 No Grousing 1.55 Hannah's Usher 2.30 Pas De Memoires 3.00 Ocker 3.30 Dovel Soul 4.00 Montecristo 4.30 Jigsaw Boy

1-026 SALTY BEHAVIOUR (26) (D) R Hamon 3 8 8\_

1.20 BRIDGETOWN MEDIAN AUCTION

5 000000 PRINCE CONTEY (21) D Wintle 3 9 N At June 1 8 20-0 STAMP (18) 3 Smart 8 9 N At June 3 Stack 7 7 0 SOLDEN SADOKE pay Mas L. Parast 8 9 Den McKrown 5 8 KOMPLETELY J Novine 8 6 N A With Medical (3) 7 9 Sector 1 Stack 1 Stack

1.55 DUNSTON CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV II) £3,300 added 6f

£4,025 added 2YO 7f

234000 ELITE HOPE (6) (C) N Tirklar 58 B \_\_\_ Dean McKepum 4 A McCentry (7) 8

2 00 LENA'S PRICE (80) W Clay 4 7 18 \_\_\_\_\_ P Francy (3) 7 10 00 005 MOOR HALL PRINCES IN A Carrol 8 7 19... IN Admin 0 V — 13 declared — BETTING: 9-2 Hamssin's Usher, 5-1 Walk The Best, 8-1 libra; Best, Kings Harmony, 8-1 Night Harmony, 10-1 Ellie Hope, Bashtul Br ave, Parther, Municipal Girl, 13-1 others

2.40: 1. D'ARBLAY STREET (Mr à Dureck) 5-2: 2. Wisdinsp 10-1; 3. Cumberland Blane 10-1 à ran. 7-4 faz Bennat City. 28, 31. (Mr Kenno). Rote: £2.70; £1.70; £2.20; \$0.00. DF: £14.90. £25F. £22.77; Tricast: £1916.4. 3.10: 1. GALEN (P. Niven) 9-4; 2. Sleather Jack 2-1 faz; 3. Irish Wildicard 3-1, 11 ran. 6, disc. (Mrs. M. Reveley). Rote: £2.90; £2.70; £1.00; £2.40; . DF: £5.50. CSF: £6.50. NR: Bedger Hil. Tric: £5.50.
NR: Bedger Hil. Tric: £5.50.
3.40: 1. BURES (E. Calegrian) 6-1; 2. Pendlend Squire 4-1; 3. Stylieth Interval 5-1 gan. 9-4 fav Plusean Rescei. 5, 14, (Mrs. J. Brown). Rote: £8.60; £1.20; £1.40; £2.00 DF: £1.20; CSF: £27.83. Tricast: £1.75; Piacopot: £52.20, Quadopot: £3.70. Place 8: £50.00. Place 5: £3.245. WARWICK 12.55: 1. FRONTIER FLIGHT (O Pears) 9-1; 2. Edward Seymour 9-2 tar; 3. Roy-al Hand 12-1 15 rat. 17, 11/6. (Mas 1. Sid-dell) Toke 1930; 5450, 5160, 5400. DF; 23000 CSF: 54402 Tricast: 546513. Tric: WINCANTON

1.20:1.EISHKEN (G Bradey) 6-1; 2. Relative Chance 4-1; 3. Hoosme De Fer 3-1 fax 13 ren. 6, 11 (M Bradetock), Totes £720; £230; £171; £200 DF; £2760; CSF; £2943; 767; £2030, NF; £169 Work

1.50: 1. MRS EM (T J Murphy) evens fax; 2. Camilies Legacy 10-1; 3. Konglea Metody 33-1 8 ren. 1½, dist. (P Nichols), Totes £160; £200 DF; £520 CSF; £200, 2.20: 1. COOL GUNNER (A P McCoy) 6-4 fax; 2. Seattle Alley 9-4; 3. Prizefighter 19-1 4 ran. 6, d. (J King), Bote: £230, DF; £330, CSF; £300, 2.20: 1. SUNLEY BAY (T J Murphy) 10-1; 2. Andre Laval 7-2; 3. Bear Claw 3-1 faw, 7 ran. ½, 26, (P Nichols), Totes £720; £240, £250, DF; £220, CSF; £328, Titoast; £10631, NR; Danger Baby, 3.20: 1. PHILATELLC (A Thornton) 5-6 fax; 2. Nessons 9-4; 3. Mr Strong Gale 11-1 9 ran. Nk, 3. (F Alney), fixtes £250; £100, £250; £100, DF; £260, CSF; £356 Theast £269, Trics £3690.

3.50: 1. DSTAINT STORM (B Powol) 3-8 fax; 2. Persian Buttarity 4-1; 3. Saafi 8-1, 9 ran. ½, 5. (B Lewelyn), Totas £250; £100, £130, £270, £7580. CSF; £798. Theast £3603. This £330. Quadpot: £7690.

Place 6: £2734, Place 5: £1853. 1.30: 1. SUBLIME FELLOW (MA Pitzgerab) 3-1; 2. Gootheen Hero 3-1; 3. Green Green Desert B-11 iax 8 ran. 9, diat. (N Hen-derson), Toter: \$230, OF; \$250, OSF; \$385, 2.00; 1. RUN FOR DANTE (A Maguire) 8-4 iax; 2. Handy Lass 7-1; 3. Special Bast. THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS 971 981 982 972 WOLVERHAMPTON 973 983 ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970 Calls cost 50p per minute. U.S. pic, Screetion 9: SCIA 47]

7-2.5 ran. 14, 14. (G Hubberd). Total: 2250; 2130, 2190, DF: 2610, CSF: 2838. After a 2130, E190, DF: DS:01 CSF: E038. After a stewards inquiry, placings unestered.
2.30: 1. HERNORSE (Mr. J. Jefford)
20-1; 2. Manusale 12-1; 3. Millersford 3-1; ftm. 12 ran. 3-1; ftm. 23 ran. 24; ftm. 24 ran. 11/s, 8. (C Morlock), fbte: £55.0 DF: £50.0 CSF: £20.0 3.30: 1. GINGERI FOX (R Ferrard) 4-5 far; 2. Hightech Rouch 33-1; 3. Outlie Undy. 10-1, 20 ran. 24, sth. 14, [Mrs.] Plimen! Total CHO; £10.0 £128.0 CSF: £20.0 CSF: £40.0 LSR. 24, sth. 16 ftm. 17 ran. 24, sth. 16 ftm. 17 ran. 24 ran. 24, sth. 16 ftm. 17 ran. 24 ran. 25 ra

WINCANTON

# WOLVERHAMPTON

GOING: Standard, STALLS: 71 – outside; remainder – inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High from 61 to fim 41.

Fibresend surface; left-trand course.

Course is south-east of flown on B2028. Rail station adjoins course.

ADMISSION: Chib Cris. [settersals 55 (OAP members of Diemond Chib 59; Viewing Restaurant £2590 including entrance and meal.

CAR PARK: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS: R Hollinehead 60-574 (105%), M Johnston 53-22 (832%), A Belloy 34-291 (117%), P Hestiam 32-891 (177%),

LEADING TRAINERS: R Hollinehead 60-574 (105%), M Johnston 53-22 (832%), A Belloy 34-291 (117%), P Hestiam 32-891 (177%),

LEADING JOCKEYS: 3 Sanders 175%, P Hestiam 32-891 (177%),

FAYOURITES: 394 wirs from 128 races (175%).

FAYOURITES: 394 wirs from 128 races (175%),

ELINKERED FIRST TIME: Orange Place 4330, Hype Superior (430), Tallstram (430), Play The Tune (visored, 1250), Moor Hall Princese (visored, 155), Desert Native (visored, 330).

12.50 DUNSTON CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,300 added 6f

MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300, added 3YO 71 

2.30 BEACON FM BETTER MUSIC MIX NURSERY HANDICAP ('CLASS E)

4.00 HIMLEY AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 added 1m 4f 010600 ENGLISH INVADER (20) (CD) C Dwyer 8 11 4 052220 LUCKY BEGONSA (18) W Musson 4 10 13. 301000 WELLCOME HAN (85) (ID) J O'Reily 3 10 12 0500- SHARP PROGRESS (476) A P Jones 4 10 10. Mrs M P Hamis (5) 3

554006 MERCURY (134) 8 Baugh 4 10 0 ... Mrs S M Pots (5) 12

18040 CLUED UP (17) P D Evers 4 10 8 ... ... Mrs S Bauss (5) 12

12224 MR FORTYWINKS (21) J L Eyer 2 10 4 ... .. Mise D Jones 5

— 12 decimal — — 12 deciared — BETTING: 6-5 Montecristo, 11-2 Navel Gernes, 7-1 Lucky Begonia, 8-1 Nr Fystywiniau, 18-1 Cestraplenty, Wellcome Inn, Clued Up, 16-1 others 4.30 DUDLEY HANDICAP (CLASS F) (DIV II) 1-500 SHOWSHL (62) (C) J H Wison 8 8 3 \_\_\_\_\_ S Sendam 9
02000 ORANGE PLACE (J16) (D) 8 Limelly 8 9 2 \_\_\_\_ S Sendam 9
02000 ORANGE PLACE (J16) (D) 8 Limelly 8 9 2 \_\_\_\_ S Wildson (7) 12 8
28053 SHONTAINE (11) (D) M Johnston 4 8 8 \_Deam McCarver 1
030005 TROJAN HERO (7) Mis M Revelby 6 9 8 \_\_\_ A Culmane 8
000005 MAZEED (15) ? D Evens 4 8 7 \_\_\_ S Whithorth 5 V
000050 JRGSAW BOV (SO) (CD) P Murphy 8 9 8 \_\_\_ S Drowne 4
005056 ROVAL CASCADE (7) (C) B McMainon 3 8 5 \_\_ I. Newton 8
002066 HYPE SUPERIOR (1) A Bellby 8 0 2 \_\_\_\_ D Wight 10 B
03000 TALISMAN (JASS 8 Dow 38 0 \_\_\_\_ P Doe (7) 11 D
403 CONCER ARALL (20) 8 C Wilterns 38 0 \_\_\_\_ Deno O'Neill 2
50050 POLISWYINE (25) (D) B Smart 3 8 13 \_\_\_\_ J Stack 7
043252 LEGIEND OF ARAGOM (7) J Giver 8 8 12 \_ S D Williams 8
— 12 deciented \_\_\_\_ - 12 declared -— 12 DECEMBE —
BETTING: 4-1 Trojan Hero, Legend Of Aragon, 5-1 Strongeins, 7-1 Concer Anal., 6-1 Orange Place, Jigean Boy, Royal Cascade, 12-1 others

4-1.7 ran. 10, 7 (N Mason) Tota: \$2.70; \$2.00, \$2.20. DF: \$1140. CSF: £25.22. Tricast: \$9792. NR: Vet De Rama.
2.10: 1. DAWN MISSION (R Genity) 4-1 it tw: 2. Lillebuoy 11-2; 3. Danbya Gores 11-2; 16 ran. 4-1 it tw. Trunn: 16, 10 (T Easterby). Tota: \$4.20; \$210, \$2140, \$2140. DF: \$22.80. CSF: £25.40. Tric: \$25.40. 1.10: 1. CRAIGARY (I Supple) 15-8 fav. 2. Norice 7-2; 3. Baher 7-1. 5 ran. 11, 3 (Nrs A Swinbert). Tota: 1250; £170, £180. DF: £330. CSF: £794. 1.40: 1. XAIPETE (Richard Guest) 3-1 fav. 2. The Bird O'Donnell 10-1; 3. Circulation Irish and

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### Lloyd's new deal as England coach

David Lloyd has been given a extension of his contract is well ries win over India in 1996 folnew contract to stay as England coach. The England and Wales Cricket Board have extended Lloyd's original two-year agreement, which means that he will stay in charge through to the World Cup in 1999.

tours to Sharjah and the West In- selection, coaching and mandies, next year's trip to Australia and home series against South Africa, Sri Lanka and New everyone involved in the game. Zealand. It represents a huge vote of confidence for Lloyd despite the losing series against Australia last summer.

"There is no doubt that David has brought a real vitality since he took over at the start forward to it." of the 1996 season and the team have responded positively to his methods," the ECB chief executive. Tim Lamb, said. "The

merited and will help to ensure lowed by defeat by Pakistan. the continuity that is so vital to the success of any team."

"I was delighted to accept the are making real progress as a side," Lloyd said. "We now have It also covers this winter's a structure in place involving the agement of the England team of the Zimbabwe Cricket Union: which can only be of benefit to

> "And that structure should stand us in good stead for the challenge of a really intensive innext two years. We should be well on opponents. It is that attention

After leaving Lancashire, where his innovative methods had brought modest success, Lloyd guided England to a se-

Then came the traumatic Christmas tour of Zimbabwe, where "appropriate action" - benew contract because I feel we lieved to be a private warningwas taken by the ECB chairman, Lord MacLaurin, after Lloyd was involved in a fierce exchange of words with an official

However, he has also commissioned an extensive video library on each England player, enabling them to work on their strengths and weaknesses, and compiled a similar catalogue prepared, and I'm really looking to detail, victory in New Zealand and a promising finish to the summer after Australia had already won the Ashes that convinced the authorities that Lloyd



Pakistan's players enjoy the victory celebrations yesterday?

### Mushtaq's wiles rout West Indies

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Palastari win by an inflings and

The West Indies manager, Clive Lloyd, was severely critical of his team after they suffered their worst-ever defeat against Pakistan in the first Test in Peshawar yesterday!

The leg-spinner Mushtaq Almed recorded career-best match figures of 10 for 106 as the hosts achieved the biggest of their eight wins in 33 Tests against the West Indies by an names and 19 runs.

"They played below par and batted and fielded very badly." Lloyd said. "I think we should have saved day four at least, but the resilience and application were missing. It was disappointing to lose in four days when there were no terrors in the pitch.7

out for 211 in their second innings as the wily Mushtaq followed up his 5 for 35 in the first hope they follow suit." inimes with 5 for 71, his third 10-wicket haul in 32 Tests.

Sherwin Campbell offered the only resistance with a resolute innings of 66 as the West Indies lost five wickets in the first session to limp into lunch at 176 for 7. After the intervaloccoing a further 54 runs to avoid an innines defeat. Mushtad claimed David Williams (20) and Curtly Ambrose (1), before Wasim Akram (4 for 65) wrapped up the victory by trapping Ian Bishob for 21.

The West Indies captain.

Courtney Walsh, said: "We batted badly oo the first day and that turned the Test in Pakistan's favour. Even on the fourth day we had a chance to come back and save the Test but the guys did not play well again."

Walsh would not comment on some questionable umpiring decisions in the match. Seven leg before decisions were giveo against the West Indies. with five in the second innings

including Brian Lara (37).... The West Indies dropped seven chances in Pakistan's innings. "The situation could have been different had we fielded well and a team never win after so many lapses,"

Walsh admitted. Despite the psychological blow of this defeat, both Lloyd and Walsh agreed the West Indies could fight back.

"We have done so in the past. We came back strongly against Australia and lost 2-3 last year." Lloyd said. "I am told The tourists were bowled that Pakistan lost two Tests against Sri Lanka after winning the first Test here in 1995. We

PANISTAN - First amings 381 (Inzament-u-Hag 92no, Saeed Anwar 65, jaz Ahmed 85, Moin Khan 58; C A Welsh 5-78).

### Strike threat overshadows Australian bowlers' efforts

New Zealand 217 Australia 32-1

day of the secood Test in Perth the growing likelihood of a

Mark Taylor's team put aside thoughts of a possible 11-day strike next roonth in pursuit of a pay claim to hold a suc-cession of difficult chances and deflate the struggling tourists. At close of play. Australia were 32 for 1, still 185 in arrears, after Taylor was trapped leg before wicket for two by the left-arm pace bowler Shayne O'Connor without playing a

shot. Taylor and Australia's other first-class cricketers are to vote on whether to to give their players' union, the Australian Cricketers' Association, the authority to call an 11-day strike next month. Relations have soured over the past mooth after the Australian Cricket Board twice rejected the union's demands for a

greater share of revenue. It was an eventful day for Taylor, who walked to the wicket under floodlights after officials reacted to the worsening light by switching them on for the last session. It was the first

time a Test match has been played noder lights.

Taylor had led by example in his fielding at first slip, where Australia made some out- he took two sharp chances. standing catches as they dis- Despite Australia's acceptance missed New Zealand for a of every chance, New Zealand's modest 217 - hut the opening captain Stepheo Fleming must have hoped for a bigger total afyesterday was overshadowed by ter winning the toss in ideal batting conditions. Only the all-rounder Chris Cairns and the middle order hatsman, Craig McMillan, delayed their

demise with half-centuries. McMillan paid a heavy price for his fluent 54 when a shortpitched delivery from the fast bowler Michael Kasprowicz fractured a bone in his right thumb. The Australian fast bowler Simon Cook celebrated his Test debut with two wickets.

v Zeahar won noss w Zealand — First Innin Young c S Wauch b Kasp Pôcock c Heely b Cook... C Parore c Blewett b Reific P Flening c Blewett b Wan Astie c Heely b Reifici ....

### Sidhu leads Indian fightback

Sri Lanka 369 India 91 for 0

India fought back on the second day of the first Test in Mobali yesterday by restricting Sri Lanka to a first innings of 369 and then scoring 90 without loss in reply. Navjot Sidha! on 47. and Nayan Mongia, 41, survived a shaky start against a hostile spell from the left-arm quick bowler Chaminda Vaas.

Earlier; the pace pair of Javagal Srinath and Abey Knruvilla claimed four wickets each to curtail the Sri Lankan innings that had threatened to reach huge proportions when they resumed on 280 for 4.

Srinath claimed 4 for 92 as Sri Lanka squandered a com-manding position, losing five wickets for the addition of 54 runs as the lodian bowlers made the most of a fresh track which afforded them some pace and bounce.

Kimuvilla took three wickets in the morning session and

showed he had lost none of his speed following a shoulder surgery and began the Sri Lankan slide by dismissing the visiting captain, Arjuna Ranatunga, for 30. The last pair. Kumaşa Dharmasena and Sajeewa de

finished with 4 for 88. Srinath

Silva, frustrated the Indian bowlers for 50 minutes after lunch. They added 36 before Srinath returned to clean bowl De Silva for six.

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# 31/SPORT

# Diprose must weld skill to a warrior's soul

England possess a thoroughly modern rugby union loose forward in Tony Diprose,

a No 8 who has forged a 'distinctive style based on skill rather than sinew. awareness rather than aggression. All they have to do now, says Chris Hewett, is come up with a way of giving full rein to

his talents.

For much of his outstanding career as a multi-talented school sportsman, Tooy Diprose put swimming above rugby in his list of priorities. It was time well spent, clearly; had it not been for those years as a freestyle specialist of considerable standing, he might easily have drowned in a sea of retreating .English studs during last Sat-'urday's shambolic draw against the Wallahies at Twickenham.

Behind a front five scrummaging unit worth its salt, the 25-year-old Saraceo invariably instifies his reputation as the most intelligent footballing Nn 8 produced by England in a generatioo. Behind a front five in reverse, however, he loses at least some of his lustre. Diprose is oot afraid of getting his hands dirty, but 80 minutes of subterranean scrabbling are 80 minutes wasted. You might just as well employ Rembrandt to paint your skirting board.

Tomorrow, England will niced their back-row artist to produce something approaching a masterpiece as they go toe to toe with a genuinely great All Black side lavishly equipped

**OVERSTACON** 

wiers' effort

influential positions. One of those positions is No 8, where Zinzan Brooke has been setting new staodards ever sioce Wayne Shelford was dumped prematurely seven years ago. Brooke is the nearest thing the Eoglishman has to a contemporary role model and the contest between the two should be one for the conmisseur.

Diprose readily aeknowledges his deht to the formidahle Maori he knows he must tame if England are to stand the proverbial cat's hope io hell of surviving the fires of Old Trafford, "Zinny would be the number one in my book. He has the Int: individuality, vision and skill, but also the strength and physical power to do it in the hard yards. I remember Shetford, 100 - his control and aggressinn made an impact oo me - and for any Englishman, Dean Richards has to be up there with the best. But Zinzan? Some player, ch?"

sible to quantify.

nitely getting there."

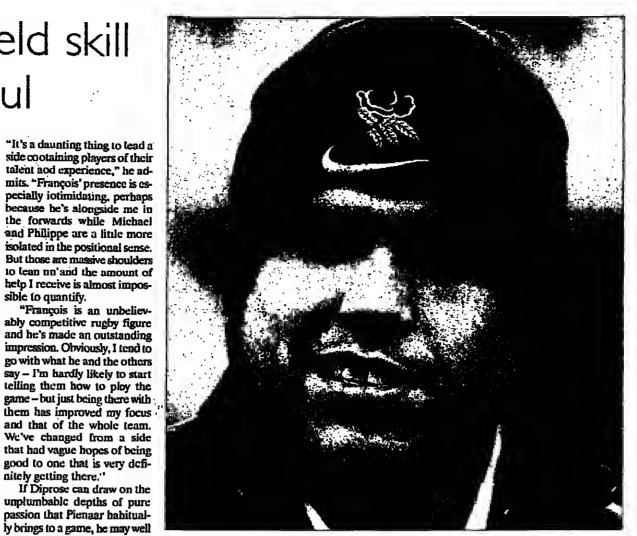
become the focal point of Clive

Woodward's New England phi-

"I'd like to think the ag-

A thankless task, then? Perhaps, given the indisputable fact that Diprose is in the Test rugby s equivalent of the reception class while Brooke is in the losophy. A No 8 of the very sixth form, swaggering around highest order requires the soft with a head boy's badge pinned hands of the craftsman and the to his lapel. Yet Diprose is mafar-seeing eyes of the visionary ture heyond his years, his natural and Diprose is hlessed with level-headedness complementboth sets of equipment. But ed by the time he has just spent does he possess the third rubbing shoulders with three of indispensible element? The Brooke's fellow inhabitants of warrior's soul? the union pantheon: Michael Lynagh, Philippe Sella and, crugression is there and while I accially, François Pienaar, South cept that I don't make as many Africa's 1995 World Cup-win-

ning captain. Not only does Diprose play alongside that esteemed trio at Saracens, he captains them, and it would be difficult to imagine a richer, more prowith genuinely great players in ductive learning environment.



Drawing conclusions: After the tied Test against Australia, Tony Diprose trains for tomorrow's meeting with the All Blacks at Old Trafford. Photograph: Peter lay

do, but working with someone like François will inevitably hring it out of me. He's just so good at ramming the basics into back-row players. It's only when you fail to carry out those hasics - win the ball, ruck the ball, keep the ball - that rugby, a simple enough game, becomes complicated."

hig hits as perhaps I should, I So how frustrating did rarely miss tackles; certainly, Diprose find last weekend's I'm very hard oo myself when Test with Australia, a Test in I allow one to slip away. The agwhich Eogland conspicuously gression thing is an aspect I'm failed to perform the basics of concentrating nn because I'm ball-winning at scrum after disorganised scrum? "It made aware that I don't show it to the life more difficult than it might extent that some other No 8s

have been," he agrees. "But there are two points that have to be made. Firstly, the scrum is an eight-man commitment, not a three-man or a five-man business. It's full-on for each and every forward; the props need the flankers, the second rows oeed the No 8. We're in it together and we should be

doing it together. "Secondly, we have to learn to adapt more quickly wheo things aren't going to plan. I was disappointed oot to get more ball in my hands but we should he able to play things off the cuff. We over-committed ourselves to the rucks and that meant that wheo Mike Catt, for instance needed runners to continue an attack, they wereo't there. Still, it was the first coming together of a oew team and we got a draw."

A draw against the All Blacks tomorrow would be akin to a 50-point victory over anyone else. It is asking a huge amount of Diprose and his fellow rank outsiders hut, just perhaps, it will be a case of cometh the stadium, cometh the man. After all, Old Trafford knows a footballer when

tained."

### Swedish pair grab sizeable early lead

Plans to upgrade the World Cup of Golf to include more of the top pizyers was overshadowed by the brilliant start by Sweden's Per-Ulrik lohansson and Joakim Haeggman on the Ocean Course. Andy Farrell reports from Kiawah Island, South Carolina.

The guiding philosophy of the World Cup, known as the Canada Cup wheo it was founded in 1953, has always been to "promote internatiooal goodwill through golf". As such it has been played everywhere from Caracas, Venezuela to Shenzhen, China, while the minnows of Puerto Rico and Namibia have always had a chance to tee up alongside the giants of the game.

This year's field is one of the better ones, with three of the season's major winners, the US Open champion, Ernie Els defending the World Cup title for South Africa with Wayne Westner, the Open champion Justin Leonard, and USPGA winner Davis Love, representing America.

But it is the nature of an event comprising 32 two-man teams that there are more unknowns than stars. That may change in 2000 when the tournament comes under the umbrella of the World Golf Championship series of events which are due to get underway in 1999.

An increase in the purse, which totals \$1.5m (£880,000), and in television will need an incentive, however. In order for more of the leading players to be included, countries may be represented by more than one team. "The details of the format has still to be decided," said Tim Finchem, the commissioner of the US tour. "We would like more of the top players to play, but must also make sure representation from around the globe is main-

American players, who fill 10 pursuers.

of the top 18 places in the world rankings, to participate, but could also benefit European players. Ken Schnfield, executive director of the European tour, said: "The geography of Europe has meant we have always been fortunate in having many two-man teams, and I can see opportunities for many of our countries to field another

One of the countries Schofield mentioned was Sweden, who were sailing away with a commanding early lead on the Ocean Course. Per-Ulrik Johansson, who won the event with Anders Forsbrand in 1991, went to the turn in 31, five under par, and his partner Joakim Haeggman took unly one more stroke. By the time the pair had both hirdied the 12th hole, they were a combined 13 under

This was not the Ocean Course that terrorised the Ryder Cup teams in the 1991 match here. Over 400 yards has been knocked off a lay-out ooce described by an American magazine as the "toughest resort course in America" to make it a more maoageable 6,833 yards. It has also softened as it has matured and, with hright sunshine and no breeze, the conditions could oot have been better for scoring.

Those who were here six years ago may still be traumatised by the experience. Ian Woosnam played the froot nine in two-over 37, while Colin Montgomerie bogeyed the first before picking up to hirdies by the turn. This was oothing compared to his partner Raymond Russell, who made up for his double bogey seveo at the secood with five birdies in a row from the fourth.

Ireland's Paul McGinley also made a fine start by hirdying five of the first six holes. He later added a run of eagle, hirdie, hirdie from the 11th in a 66 which dovetailed perfectly with the steadiness of his partner, Padraig Harrington, who was round in 71 with just one bogey. At eight under par. the Irish duo were Sweden's closest, if still somewhat distant

#### Wales leave Quinnell to find his international fitness

Kevin Bowring, the Wales Zealand game will be selected coach, yesterday resisted the confusion to meet the New Wales SQUAn (v New Zeeland, Wambler, 29 November); K Morgan (Pontyoridd, Combandor), Combandor (National Combandor), Combandor (Nation in Scott Quinnell, one of Wales' few truly world-class forwards, at Wembley tomorrow week. Quinnell, though back playing for Richmond, is still not considered fit eoough for international rugby.

Bowring said Quinnell was in line for a Five Nations' Championship comeback but added: "Playing New Zealand is a different matter to playing for your chib. He's been playing for his club from game to game, but cartying injuries and not training betweeo games. I think he is about three or four weeks away from international fitness."

Ieuan Evans, the 33-year-old wing, is another who is still well short of international fitness. Scott's brother Craig Quinnell is currently unavailable with injury.

. Bowring named an international training squad of 26, from which the final team and six replacements for the New

G Wyert (Partypridd), N Wallor (Cardif), G Thomas (Bridgend), Il Jasses (Pontypridd), 2 Gibbe (Swurgee), L Device (Cerdif), A Beissen (Richnord), A Thomas (Swergee), N Jenkins (Pontypridd), P John (Pontypridd), R Howley (Cardif), C Loeder (Swansee), S John (Cardif), C Anthony (Swansee), S John (Cardif), C Anthony (Swansee), D Young (Cardif), B Williams (Richmond), J Humphrays (Cordif), M Voyle (Lienell), C Stephens (Bridgend), O Llewellyn (Harlycuins), R Appleymrd (Swansee), M Williams (Cardif), N Thomas (Baill), S Williams (Cardif), N

 London Scottish have fallen out with their co-tenants Richmond over match scheduling. The elub had wanted to stage their Tetley Bitter Knock-Out Cup match against Bath on 3 January at the Athletic "I can't wait for the first Ground. Richmood already had a home tie, against Doncaster, and London Scottish have been forced to move their match to the Recreatioo Ground, Bath.

● The Bath fly-half Richard Butland, 26, has been placed on the transfer list at his own request. Bath are likely to want about £50,000 to buy out the remaining 30 mooths of Butland's four-year contract.

The most talkative hooker in the southern hemisphere, Sean Fitzpatrick, may be out of tomorrow's England-New Zealand Test at Old Trafford, but his European counterpart, Richard Cockerill, is very much in business. Chris Hewett catches the

Leicester larynx in full

scrum." Richard Cockerill said yesterday. Giveo the fact that Leicester's irrepressibly vocal hooker was preparing to lock horns with an All Black pack of vintage quality, it was difficult to tell whether his unequivocal statement of self-belief was born of masochism, hyperbole or a gross delusion of grandeur.

Actually, Cockerill was deadly serious. It is probably

of one hand those who honestly believe England can beat the my normal game, which is pre-All Blacks in tomorrow's openict in Manch but the 26-year-old antiques restorer is very definitely one of that select hand of optimists. "We're not going to Old Trafford to be polite to these people," he insisted. "They have some great players, but they're oot supermen. I respect the things they've achieved, but they woo't see much respect

Cocky Cockerill banging the drum

"Cocky" by nickname, then, and cocky by nature. For all those who believe the proud and bullish Midlands mouthpiece to be a hlast of hot air and nothing more, England will benefit from his unique brand of up and-at-'em confidence. The mood in the camp had seemed flat in the wake of last weekend's low-quality draw with the Wallabies until Cockerill started banging the drum yesterday.

from us once the game begins."

"So what if people give us oo chaoce?" he asked. "I couldn't care less what other

off. I'll go out there and play cisely how I've got myself ioto for me, as it is for everyone else picked for the match, and I have no doubts over my ability to play a part in what I believe will be a good England performance. I intend to take it to the All Blacks at the first scrum, the last scrum aod

every scrum in hetween." Insofar as Darren Garforth, the new tight-head prop who partners Cockerill in the Leicester front row, managed to get a word in edgeways, there was a united staod amongst the front-rowers

"We're going oot there to compete and I'm looking to put myself in the All Blacks' faces all game," Garforth said.

England have invested a substantial oumber of manhours in stabilising their creaking scrummage and, while Garforth accepts that set-piece duties were far from the strongest aspect of his game un-

possible to count on the fingers people think. Let'em write us til he decided to get down to brass tacks a couple of seasons hack, both Leicester men believe they can rise to the chal-Hewitt and Olo Brown.

> The visitors confirmed that Josh Kronfeld, the "black shadow" from Otago who was magnificent in Tucsday's 59-22 victory over the Emerging side. would fill the vacant open-side flanker's berth on Saturday. Kronfeld confirmed his quick recovery from minor rib trouhle during training yesterday

and replaces Andrew Blowers.
"I was frustrated at being left out of the side that played Ireland last weekend, but it's an attitude huilder," Kronfeld said. "Andrew deserved his place in that one, but the selectors asked me to produce a little hit more and they seem to be happy with my response." When England recall the stunning try Kronfeld scored against them during the World Cup rout in Cape Town some two and a half years ago, they are not likely to share in

#### HOCKEY

#### lpswich in Slough showdown

The defeoding champions, Slough, travel to Tuddenham Road tomorrow to face secondplaced Ipswich who, after their surprise cup defeat by Sutton Coldfield last weekend, now have only the League title to aim for, in a game which could tie up this year's title. Defeat for Ipswich, already three points behind maximum points Slough, would probably eod any realistic hopes of taking the title.

Riding high at the top of the Second Division is the League's only other maximum points side Woking Swifts. Last year's runners-up, Woking, scraped through their opening game 2-1

against Old Loughtonians and they have mostly won by the ndd goal. But, under their ocw coach, Dave Hoaen, they have kept on winning.

Cath Harris, Woking's long

serving midfield player, puts their success down to most of the squad having heeo together for a long time: "There is a tremeodous spirit, the squad system is working well. With Liz Clegg now recovered after twice breaking her collar-bone and scoring goals we look to our oext game against West Witney on Saturday with confideoce."

Acqiyerne (7-5) bi Milotzuni (7-5); Kazoryu (7-5) bi Milotzuni (3-5); Kotonowska (7-5) bi Ferso (8-5); Kindochidoli 6-7) bi Kyolosiyuzan (8-5); Asarovesta (7-5) bi Genyu (8-5); Shieshran (7-5) bi Chryotzika (8-6); Asarovesta (8-6) bi Genyu (8-6); Shieshran (7-5) bi Chryotzika (8-6); Asarivuzaka (8-7) bi Tamalazauga (8-6); Ogininid (8-6) bi Tosaroveni (8-7); Tosaroveni (8-6); Bi Kalo (8-7); Aldrostima (8-6) bi Hamanoshima (8-6); Bidanoseni (8-1) bi Kotolinzuma (8-6); Milasarimaru (8-6); bi Cotolinzuma (8-6); Milasarimaru (8-6); bi Cotolinzuma (8-6); Milasarimaru (8-6); bi Genyopema (8-6); Genyopema (8-6);

#### SPORTING DIGEST

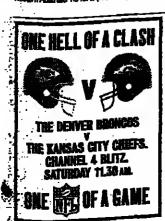
Basketbail

The American forward Ryan Williams and the guards Stave Nelson and Gary Smith have agreed fresh terms offered by Worthing Bears, who had been forced to re-organize following the withdrawal of their owner Greg Futerton.

Fullertor.
MBA: Charlotte 108 Portaind S2: Mismi 122 LA Clopes 13, New Jarsey 108 Boston 100; Phidel-phis 69 Mashington 68; Oxfando 68 Cleveland 63 dol: See Antonio 108 Golden State 67; Seetile 107 Marcouner 67; LA Lulent 18 Minnesch 83. MBM'S EUROL EAGUE Group A: Éles Pisen (furli 70 Real Machd. (Sp.) 51. Boxing

Deoff McCreesh, the British welter-weight chempion, must defend his ti-tie-against the Weishman Michael Smyth by the end of February. Cricket

Boger Telemachus has withdrawn from the South African team to tour Australia with a stomach muscle in Jury. He is to be replaced by the 20-year-old fast bowler Makhaya Nith, who becomes the first black African to be collected up to the perional squad. uniu pecomes the list pack American tobe called up to the national squad. SHEPRED SHIELD (First day of lour); Syd-ney; Naw South Wales 136 (B P Julian 7-49); Western Australia 15 for 2 (A J Campbell 61no).



#### Football

Footbail

Warren Aspinal yesterdey became
Brentford's second signing of the
week when he moved to Griffin Park
from Carlisle for £50,000. Aspinal is
set to make his debut atongside the
new loan signing Nigel Gleghom
against Oldham tornorrow.
Jamie Hoyland yesterday signed for
struggling Carlisle on loan from Burnley. The midfielder could make his United debut at Bournemouth tornorrow.
Swansea City have been told by the
city's Safety of Sports Grounds Committeelo make emergency repairs to

city's Safety of Sports Grounds Com-mitteeto make emergency repeirs to their Vetch Field ground or face play-ing tomorrow's home game against Chester behind closed doors. AUTO WINDSCREEDS SHIELD First-round draw: Southern section: Bernst v Walsat; Caroti City v Millaut, Gingham Peterborough; Patel Rivers v Cambridge United; Southerd v Wycembe Wandards; Filhern v Wishord; Ley-son Orient v Cotchester United; Northernpton Town v Plymouth Aggla. Byes: Bournemouth,

TODAY'S NUMBER

The percentage number of Smugs-mugs moulded in the shape of footballers' faces - bearing the visage of David Beckham. Ruud Guilit is in second place, with 20 per cent, followed by Ryan Giggs (18) and Alan Shearer (12). Paul Gascoigne accounts for only five per cent of sales.

Brenzford, Brighton, Bristol Ciby, Exeter, Luton, Swensea, Torquey, Northerm section: Hull City v Sourborough; Wigen Adhetic v Lincoln City: Donasster Rowers v Rochdele; Chester-ted v Grimsby Townt; Scurithors United v Chester City; Cartelle Linked v Oldhern Athlet-ic; Shrewebury Roun v Hartepool United; Are-ston North End v Derfington, Byeer Standpool, Burnley, Meccledield Town, Marselfeld Town, North Carty Rotherham Marsham Mark. ix: Strewbury Town V Hartepool Urrisic; Preston North End v Darlington, Byers Backpool,
Burnley, Meccledfield Rown, Marmfield Town,
Notes County, Richardman, Wesdam, York City,
(Tae to be played week starting 8 December).
COCA-COLA CLIP Countral-finel draw; Netcase v Liverpool; West Harn v Assensi; banisch
v Chalses: Reading v Middlesbrough. (Toes to
be played 6 or 7 January).
WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Coca-Cola
Cup Pourth round: Creissa 2 Southermoinn 1
cast; West Harn 4 Weisell 1. Bell's Sootlish
Langue Presider Division: Gelic 1 Rungan 1.
Unifford Langue Presider Division: Gelicborough 0 Accrimgton Stanley 0; Winsland 0
Bermber Bridge 1. First Division: Fersiey 2 Ashton Lief 1. Challenge Cup Scored round: Bridford Park Avenus 2 Prictive 2 Uniffilm First
Division Cop First round: Whitely 2 Writing Bay
2 Dr Martens Langue Presider Division: Gelicatholico City 1. Midland Division: Paget Rangers
2 Hestings 1; St. Locand's Stamcont 5 Combridge City 1. Midland Division: Paget Rangers
2 RC Wernold: 2; Webson 0 Raunts 1. Postpoland: VS Ruciby v Granders. Scored Tourist.
2 RC Wernold: 2; Webson 0 Raunts 1. Postpoland: VS Ruciby v Granders. Scoredon
0 St. Nacis 3; Northampton Spencer 9 Webton 1; Speiding 1 Hobesch 1; Yaciby 1 Section

**FIXTURES** 

Football 

IRELAND Premier Division: Bohemans v Sigo Rovers (7/45); Droghede Utd v Finn Harps (7/45); Shamrock Rovers v Univer-sity College Dublin (7/46). AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division; Portsmouth v Totterham

**Rugby Union** TOUR MATCH: Edinburgh v Australian Capital Territory (70) (at Meggetland). CHELTENHAM AND GLOUCESTER CUP Group A: Northampton v Glouces2. Unifiet Sussest County Langue First Division: Idle Oak 3 Hampoole 1, Arnold Insurance Northern Langue First Division: Peruth O Stockton 1: Screwift Direct Lengue Presider Division: Stockton 1: Screwift Direct Lengue Presider Division: Strettled 2 Arnold 2 North West Counties East Langue Presider Division: Strettled 2 Arnold 2 North West Counties Lengue First Division: Strettled Counties Lengue First Division: Strettled Counties Lengue First Division: Strettled Counties Langue First Division: Strettled Counties Langue First Division: Counties Langue First County 3; Inter Cable-1el Candit 1 Cassess 1: Protressor Of Serger Cat/5 First Division: Strettled Counties 1: Protressor Of Serger Cat/5 First Division: Chapter 1: Protressor 1: Sheffield Wednesdey 3: First Division: Girculpy Oxivor: I Marchester City 1 Solton 1; Okthum 1 Sunderbard 3; Port Web 1: Coverby 2: Next Person 1: Sheffield Wednesdey 3: First Division: Strettlem Oxivor: Strettlem Division: Strettlem Oxivor: Strettlem Oxivor:

CLUB MATCHES: Lalcester v Lough-borough Students (745); Selkirk v Gate (727); Musseburgh v Stawarts Melville FP (127); Glasgow Southern v Peebles (727); Edinburgh Academicals Presidents XV v David Sole XV (2.30).

Basketball UNI-BALL TROPHY: Birminghern Bullets v Themes Valley Tigers (80); Newcastle Eagles v Chester Jets (7:30).

Other sports BADMINTON: Scottish Open (Glass SNOOKER: UK Championship (Pre-



Golf
ASIAN PGA TOUR LEXUS INTERNATIONAL
(Basghath) Lauding first-round accres: 94 C
Paphot (Theil, es K Walter (Soo), 87 V Blandari (Ind.) A Atwell (Ind.) K Hei Hein (Burnet, 68
G Herselver (I.S.) 3 Kyest Neing (Burnet, 69 Ventor) (Aust, 199 M Curring (ISS, W 197 Chang (Bet,
M Murupleh (Sing), R Coles (Eng), T Kincehtts
(Lepen), R Reisemorbit (Theil), 5 Yestes (Soo), L
Perinse (IAS), L Wen-Thin (Ind.), L Vorgi-Hoo (Kon,
76 K Hong-Sik (Kon, F Nein-Sin (Kon, F Neinseeng (Theil, E Meeles (ISS, C Pere (ISS, M)
Choong-Hein (Iod), O'Music (Sing), P Pere (ISS),
Sing), T O'Nesna (Lipson), T I R Custo (Thil), Y
Rumiyama (Jepon), C Kamps (SA)
PGA EUROPEAN TOUR CULALIFYING
SCHOOL, (Spein) First round (GB or Int unless stated) San Roque: 96 P Nyman (Swe).



Ice hockey
John Lawless, the former Cardiff
Devils coach, has been appointed as
the new coach of Telford Tigers. As
player and coach, the 36-year-old Canadian led the Devils to four league
titles, three British championships
and a Benson and Hedges Cup victory.

ox Pract 6-16-5; ATP WORLD DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP (Hattford, Connecticat): Vallow groups M Bu-poth) and L. Peas (Inch bit E Fertreira (SA) and P Gathralin (LS) 7-5-6-4 (Green groups R Leach and J. Stark (US) by S Lareau (Carr) and A O'Brien (US) 8-4-3-6-9-3.

**Tennis** 

### ON WEDNESDAY IT WAS THEM.

Draw date: 19/11/97. The winning numbers: 22, 27, 33, 42, 46, 47. Bonus number: 32.

CATEGORY	NO. OF WINNERS	AMOUNT FOR EACH WINNER	TOTAL EACH TIE
Malch & (Jackpot)	4	£3.75n,nnn	£15,000,000
Match 5 plus bonus ball	14	£138,833	£1.915,662
Match 5	573	£2,189	£1,198,997
Match 4	34,205	£77	£2,833,785
Metch 3	678,248	£1D	£6,762,460
TOTALS	711,042		£27,508,904
amelot Group pic. Players must be 16 or	gwer.	Breakage (pri:	es rounded down to nearest £

IT SOULD BE WOU. THE NATIONAL LOTTERY in the event of any discrepancy in the above, the data contained in Camelol central computer system shall prev

# Gross happy to put his reputation on the line

Tottenham's new coach has already gained an impressive grasp of the north London club's rich history. Trevor Haylett heard Christian Gross explain yesterday how he hopes to deliver a brighter future to White Hart Lane.

Tottenham Hotspur have always been a club steeped in style and glamour, and successive managers have had to come to terms with that fact pretty quickly. For his first day at White Hart Lane, Christian Gross was decidedly uncool: he caught the tube from Heathrow Airport.

It is an ordinary, everyday occurrence for millions and yet the football fraternity appears at times so far removed from the real world that, wheo Totteobam's new head coacb reached into the top pocket of his jacket to flourish a travel card, it provoked some merriment among his audience, Surviviog the 28-stop excursioo and arriving on time for an inaugural press conference can be marked down as the first achievement of the Gross era.

Pitting himself against the hazards of the Piccadilly line, Herr Gross explained, would give him an immediate affinity with those Spurs supporters who have to undertake the same journey. "I want to be one of them," he said. "The fans must love the team, I am the coach of the team. We must be together."

That said, the White Hart Lanc faithful will be boping the replacement for Gerry Francis is the man to stop them going down the tubes. They can't help but be impressed by the knowledge he has already acquired on the north Loodoo underachievers who have eoticed him to leave Switzerland, and bome, behind.

Only mioutes after settling into the same seat Francis had vacated barely 24 hours before,



Christian Gross, Spurs' new manager, flourishes the Underground travel card that took him to White Hart Lane yesterday

Photograph: Robert Hallam

there was Gross citing the achievements of Bill Nicholson. the victorious Cup-Winners' Cup side of 1963 and, later, even Harry Hotspur. He would appear a clever politician as well as the clever manager a track record of two league championships as well as the Swiss Cup would suggest in four years with Grasshopper.

The 43-year-old is an im-

posing figure, with the disconcerting habit of raision his voice to emphasise a point in the manner of a parade ground sergeant major. This is one manager who will not struggle to make himself beard either on the training field or in the

Alan Sugar, the Tottenham chairman, made it clear that only those with a resolute dis-

shopping list when Francis revealed he could not carry on, "Apart from having a good coach and good players, the essential requirement for a successful side is a good team spirit and that comes from disciplme," be said.

In the 10 days following Sugar's approach, Gross has worked his way through a video

ciplinary hand were on his library of all this seasoo's games. He talked yesterday of the benefits of aggression, strength and power in the team, of the importance of realism among supporters.

It was some way from the gospel according to Ossie Ardiles, but who is to say those hard-to-please fans will oot take him to their hearts if he can put some success on the board?

Gascoigne ban sparks call for video evidence Salas bid is not ruled out by Ferguson as United's coffers swell

"We have to stop the fall of

Tottenham," declared Gross.

who then said it again lest

anyone had oot heard him the

first time. "There are good

players in the squad and we

have to bring them together,

The fans must be realistic.

make them more compact.

To be successful at first we must

play a physical, powerful game.

We have to be strong and oot

"We have been warned that we could be in trouble with the local authority," Edwards said, but Andy Walsh of the Independent Manchester United Sopporters' Association said if that bappens, the club will be the ones to blame.

"If parts of Old Trafford close, then that will be United's fault for refusing to listen or talk with the fans," he said. "The areas where standing occurs most are in the lower parts of the stahave too many injuries. Then we can look to play an attractive game, but the most important thing is to be successful. If on the inside the players have hearts like lions, I am sure the results will im-

prove."

Listening to Francis in the second balf of his Tottenham stewardship was to be couvinced that only their injury toll was preventing them from usurping Manchester United. Gross shares the alarm over a long list of absentees and has recruited Fritz Schmidt, the Grasshopper cooditioning coach, to work alongside him. In addition, Sugar is to look for a new board member able to liaise closely with the new coach and assume some of the responsibility for recruiting new players.

"Fritz will not only have responsibility for the team's physical preparation but will also bring the injured players back to fitness so they can train with me as quickly as possible," added Gross. "I am wondering why Darren Anderton, such an important player to the team, has played just 15 games in two

"Tottenham are one of the most famous clubs in the world and my aim is to make them better than they have been doing. It will be a great, great challenge to have as much success here as Bill Nicholson. As a nine-year-old, I remember them winning the Cup-Winners' Cup, the first British team to be successful in Europe."

Then, demonstrating that the book recounting Tottenham the history and presenting to him as a farewell gift in Zurich was already well thumbed, Gross added: "Harry Hotspur [the Shakespearean character from the Northumberland family oo whose land the White Hart Lane Stadium sits] was a warrior, wasn't be? Why doo't we try to make Les Ferdinand the oew Harry Hotspur?"

More football; Non-League notebook,

these issues properly with sup-

porters' groups then a lot of these

problems could be addressed.

But all we get is obstruction and

an unwillingness to co-operate.

The club treats the ordinary

fans with contempt."

### Fifa to use rankings for **World Cup**

World Cup seedings have always depended solely on performances in the past three tournaments. So for England, who missed USA 394, the announcement that world rankings will also be used for France '98 is welcome news.

England's chances of being seeded when the draw for next suntmer's World Cup is made in Marseilles on 4 December 4 inproved yesterday when Fifa, the sport's world governing body. said they would be using their world rankings as part of the process to decide the seeds. It had been feared that Fifa

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Page 13 wa ...

would have the seedings on previous World Cup performances, which would penalise England for failing to qualify for the 1994 tournameot. But yesterday Fifa said their rankings, which began in August 1993 and had not settled down enough to be used for the 1994 tournament, would be used this time in conjunction with previous results.

England's win over Camer-000 lifted them to sixth in the Fifa world rankings, their highest-ever position. Fifa are likely to use a complicated system. which also takes into account performances over the last three World Cups, giving added weight to more recent competitions.

England are likely to be placed 11th in this particular table, but their high position in the rankings should enable them to overtake Belgium and Bulgaria leaving them contesting the last two seedings with Argentina (Fifa ranking 35, World Cupranking 5) Italy (10. 3) and the Netherlands (12, 9). However Fifa may take an average of recent positions in their rankings rather than the current ones.

A decision will be made two days before the draw, when Fifa's World Cup executive committee meet in Marseilles.

"We have always believed that if there is to be a ranking system, it should be taken into account for the seedings," FA spokesman Steve Double said. So with our ranking at its best ever level, the Fifa statement

He was also realistic, however: "We can't be overly optimistic about our chances. Yet at the World Cup you have to beat the best anyway - so if we \_ . are not seeded, then so be it."

### But even the Dane, who ad- Gascoigne had already ac- Manchester United's Salas saga club announced record profits closed if supporters continue to dium, where views are poor. If

open the way for video evidence to be used to disciplinary matters, as Paul Gascoigne faced up to a five-match ban following his seeding off.

The Raogers and England midfield player was dismissed for violent cooduct by the referee Joho Rowbotham io the Old Firm match on Tuesday after clashing with Morteo Wieghorst, and oow misses his side's December programme.

No. 3462. Friday 21 Noves

ACROSS

cious one's in retreat (6)

Compromise deal unfortu-

nately rated unacceptable (5-3)

sumed when on the turn

Someone who whips

things, presumably (3,7)
10 Cheese from France con-

(4) 11 Comics will require better

paper (8) 12 Henry's aboard dark boat

(6) 13 I was in charge of turning

around foodstore (4)
15 Big lion chewed up leader

18 Tall person, a runner, per-

haps, one from Eastern

of guides trying to be help-

Military update: "Auda-

shirt, thought the punishment was too severe and television replays showed cootact was only

Now the Scottish Players' Unioo have called for the SFA to allow appeals using video evidence to be made. The players' union leader, Tony Higgins, who is already debating the matter with the Managers and Coaches Association, believes the use of video evidence is a sensible and fair road to go down.

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

19 Are soldiers close to

busy schedule (6)

prayer? (4) Agitated about head of

23 One embraces chap with-

out checking (8) Favourite's held back the

Batman struggling with evil, though in two minds

27 End of air-raid making

everyone jump (3-5)

Routine to stop after sec-

DOWN

1 had a bouse in US state

(5) Rising? No, 1 will roll over

Greek character, lively, in-

after swilling beer (9)

volved in crime (6)

committee in charge of a

points for bookings. Tuesday's offence cost him another 12 points, taking his total to 21 and over the threshold. He serves an automatic one-match ban after his dismissal in the 58th minute which means he will miss the match with Motherwell on Saturday.

Gascoigne will return for the game against St Johnstooe the following Saturday before beginning a four-match ban on 3 December.

What do you need for a

ring? Then elope abruptly, more unfeelingly (9,6) Put out drink for dog (8)

Delicate fellow trapped by

What the uncommitted di-

eter has? (3,6)
Basic foundation of code
the French cracked (9)

somewhat hollow assembly

rising river (5)

16 Is old Gaul in pieces?

That's a bloomer (9)

17 Lecturer participating in

20 Added something about

body (6)

umpleasantly vile part of

Question: Very good in bed, on reflection? (5)

24 Chap, one carried off by

sea-eagle (5)

umulated nine disciplinary took another twist vesterday of £27.6m. when the Premiership club

announced that they have oot eotirely ruled out buying the £12m-rated Chilean striker, Marcelo Salas. They could afford him, after all. "I'll be talking to the chair-

man [Martin Edwards] and we'll have a chat about the situatioo," Alex Ferguson, the manager, said:

Edwards revealed the talks to shareholders during United's

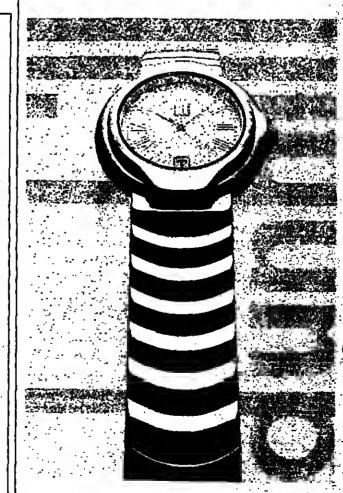
annual meeting, at which the

If Salas does go to Old Trafford, Andy Cole will be standing in his way, having signed a oew five-year contract yesterday. The signing was announced at the AGM and ends speculation that Cole could be the subject of a bid by Aston Villa.

All is not rosy at the Red Devils' domain, bowever. Some United supporters have reacted angrily to a warning at the AGM from Edwards that sections of Old Trafford may be

# ALFRED DUNHILL

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SAILING

### Double delight for Smith

A new world record was set by Britain's Lawrie Smith in the Whitbread Race yesterday. Again. Stunrt Alexander reports.

Piling through the Southern Ocean at 49 degrees south and playing the vicious breezes which stream off Smith: Record-breaker Antarctica, Smith and his 11 crew in Silk Cut covered 449.26 miles in the 24 bours from 08.21 GMT on Wednesday to 08.20 GMT yesterday, an average of 18.2 knots. It was a tantalising 0.7 miles below the magic breakthrough of 450 miles in a day, but it restored to Smith a title he woo in the 1993 race, when be covered 428.8 miles to establish a world mooobuli record oo the same leg of the race in In-

That was taken away from him by Chris Dickson in July, when he recorded 434,4 miles crossing the Atlantic in Toshiba. The nearly 15 miles extra gives Smith and crew of the

trum Justitia.



morale as they try to improve on their fifth position on the second leg from Cape Town to Fremantle, West Australia. Silk Cut's navigator, Steve

Hayles, was almost laid back. "What's more fun," he asked. "catching another boat or breaking a world record. At the momeot we are doing both. We had to push as hard as we could knowing that this was a critical point. Things were going well and we set off at 400 miles a day pace. The average wind speed was well over 30 knots and we were. struggling to hang oo to our full size kite?

Hayles paid tribute to a crewman, Neil Graham, for

the way he trimmed the spin naker to allow the boat to pick up each successive wave. rather than ploughing in to the ooe in front. Eveo so, "we were broaching a little more often than we would like - (no one likes broaching and it can be boat-threatening) - so the decision came for a smaller kite to be set up."

The wind gods, said Hayles, came up trumps again and the spinnaker was perfect. But he also reminded himself that he was racing against eight other boats. Silk Cut is chasing Paul Cayard in EF Language and has reduced the deficit from 70 to 38 miles. If Smith, who left EF to join Silk Cut, can beat first leg winner Cayard into Fremantle, he will reduce the points deficit from 55 to 29. Cayard has broken both spinnaker poles, sails, and various bits of other gear. The remaining 1,600 miles will be

bard fought.

bard fought.

WHITEREAD ROUND THE WORLD

RACE (second leg. 4,500 miles, Cape

Town to Frementle): Latest positioner 1

Town to Frementle): Cape (Kentra title miles

Whitbread 60 Silk Out not just a new record, but a boost to

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